

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND

Journal of the Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

N° 2031.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1855.

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MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY.
Jermyn Street.—NOTICE. During Christmas Week, and henceforth, the Museum will be opened free to the public every day but Friday.

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ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN. Albemarle Street, December, 1855.—**JUVENILE LECTURES.**—Mr. FARADAY will deliver during the Christmas Vacation a COURSE OF SIX LECTURES on the DISTINCTIVE PROPERTIES OF THE COMMON METALS, intended for a Juvenile Audience, on the following days at three o'clock:—Thursday, 27th; Saturday, 29th of December; Tuesday, 1st; Thursday 3rd; Saturday, 5th; Tuesday, 8th of January, 1856. Non-subscribers to the Royal Institution are admitted to this Course on payment of one guinea each; children under 16 years, 10s. 6d. A Syllabus may be obtained at the Royal Institution. Subscribers to all the Theatre Lectures are admitted on payment of two guineas for the Season.

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The First Session of 1856 will commence on the 21th of January.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—The Society's annual exhibition of Photographs will be opened early in January, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, No. 5, Pall Mall East. Photographs intended for exhibition must be directed to the Honorary Secretary, at the Gallery, and must be sent in on the 24th, 26th, or 27th of December. The regulations will be sent to the Members of the Society, and may be obtained by others by applying at the Society's Rooms, 21, Regent Street, between the hours of Ten and Four.

ROGER LINTON, Hon. Sec.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. THE SECOND PART OF THE VOYAGES OF SINBAD THE SAILOR, with new and beautiful DISSOLVING PICTURES, and description, with SONGS, by G. L. HORNE, Esq. Laughable PHANTASMAGORIA effects, by Messrs. CARPENTER and WESTLEY. Series of astonishing CONJURING TRICKS AND DELUSIONS, by Mr. BURMAIN. Brilliant Popular Lectures on FLAME, FIRE, and COMBUSTION, by J. H. PEPPER, Esq. TEN THOUSAND ORNAMENTS will be GIVEN AWAY to the juvenile visitors from the GIANT CHRISTMAS TREE during the holidays.

MADAME JENNY GOLDSCHMIDT-LIND. On THURSDAY EVENING NEXT, December 27, 1855, Haydn's Oration of THE CREATION will be repeated. Principal singers, MADAME GOLDSCHMIDT, Mr. LOCKEY, and Mr. LAWLER. Madame's Oration of THE MESSIAH will be produced on MONDAY EVENING, December 31, in which MADAME GOLDSCHMIDT will sing the principal Soprano part. The Chorus and Orchestra will consist of more than SIX HUNDRED PERFORMERS. Conductor, M. BENEDET.

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Doors open at Seven; to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Correct books of the Oration are given with the tickets. Application for tickets to be made at Mr. MITCHELL's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond Street.

* Due notice will be given of the First Miscellaneous Concerts.

JUVENILE BALL at the WHITTINGTON CLUB.—The SIXTH ANNUAL JUVENILE BALL will be held at the FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen Street, on WEDNESDAY, January 2nd, 1856, particulars to be obtained at the Office, 210, Strand.

HENRY Y. BRACE, Secretary.

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DECEPTIVENESS OF BOOK-TITLES.—In nothing are the Public more apt to be deceived than in the title of a book. Many Editions, for example, of Byron's and Sir Walter Scott's Poetical Works are published, by some of which, unfortunately, the Public are too easily entrapped. They trust to a book containing all its title professes, whereas with such books as Byron and Scott's Poetical Works the real state of the case is that no complete or proper editions exist except those published by the holders of the Copyright. Messrs. John Murray, London, and A. and C. Black of Edinburgh, Messrs. Black's Edition of Sir Walter Scott's Poetry is the cheapest published (3s.), and yet numerous editions find their way into the Market at the same price, which want the whole of "The Lord of the Isles," one of Scott's best and principal Poems, of Six Cantos, and in the smallest type extending to upwards of one hundred pages. It is certainly desirable that, when an edition containing this poem can be got along with the others for the same money, it should be taken in preference to any other; and yet there are sold every year, at the same price, thousands of other copies wanting the whole of this Poem, which, being Copyright, cannot be included in any edition except that bearing the imprint of ADAM and CHARLES BLACK, Edinburgh.

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of the Continent, and the position of England, at the close of 1855, and during the reign of William. Even before his own kingdom was firmly settled he had to stand forth as the vindicator of international law, and to check the advances of a despotism which threatened the liberties of Europe. Let us hope that the success of the Western allies against the encroachments of Russia may be more speedy and complete than that which, in the days of Louis the Fourteenth, crowned the efforts of William and of Marlborough.

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"A political and social revolution took place through the whole Celtic region. The power of the chiefs was destroyed: the people were disarmed: the use of the old national garb was interdicted: the old predatory habits were effectually broken: and scarcely had this change been accomplished when a strange reflux of public feeling began. Pity succeeded to aversion. The nation execrated the cruelties which had been committed on the Highlanders, and forgot that for those cruelties it was itself answerable. Those very Londoners, who, while the memory of the march to Derby was still fresh, had thronged to hoot and pelt the rebel prisoners, now fastened on the Prince who had put down the rebellion the nickname of Butcher. Those barbarous institutions and usages, which, while they were in full force, no Saxon had thought worthy of serious examination, or had mentioned

except with contempt, had no sooner ceased to exist than they became objects of curiosity, of interest, even of admiration. Scarcely had the chiefs been turned into mere landlords, when it became the fashion to draw invidious comparisons between the rapacity of the landlord and the indulgence of the chief. Men seemed to have forgotten that the ancient Gaelic polity had been found to be incompatible with the authority of law, had obstructed the progress of civilization, had more than once brought on the empire the curse of civil war. As they had formerly seen only the odious side of that polity, they could now see only the pleasing side. The old tie, they said, had been parental: the new tie was purely commercial. What could be more lamentable than that the head of a tribe should eject, for a paltry arrear of rent, tenants who were his own flesh and blood, tenants whose forefathers had often with their bodies covered his forefathers on the field of battle? As long as they were Gaelic marauders, they had been regarded by the Saxon population as hateful vermin who ought to be exterminated without mercy. As soon as the extermination had been accomplished, as soon as cattle were as safe in the Perthshire passes as in Smithfield market, the freebooter was exalted into a hero of romance. As long as the Gaelic dress was worn, the Saxons had pronounced it hideous, ridiculous, nay, grossly indecent. Soon after it had been prohibited, they discovered that it was the most graceful drapery in Europe.

Soon the vulgar imagination was so completely occupied by plaids, targets, and claymores, that, by most Englishmen, Scotchmen and Highlanders were regarded as synonymous words. Few people seemed to be aware that, at no remote period, a Macdonald or a Macgregor in his tartan was to a citizen of Edinburgh or Glasgow what an Indian hunter in his war paint is to an inhabitant of Philadelphia or Boston. Artists and actors represented Bruce and Douglas in striped petticoats. They might as well have represented Washington brandishing a tomahawk, and girt with a string of scalps. At length this fashion reached a point beyond which it was not easy to proceed. The last British King who held a court in Holyrood thought that he could not give a more striking proof of his respect for the usages which had prevailed in Scotland before the Union, than by disguising himself in what, before the Union, was considered by nine Scotchmen out of ten as the dress of a thief."

Out of the profusion of brilliant sketches which appear in quick succession through the sixteen hundred pages of these volumes, we can make but an arbitrary selection. We have this characteristic passage in the account of the early history of the East India Company :—

"When this celebrated body began to exist, the Mogul monarchy was at the zenith of power and glory. Akbar, the ablest and the best of the princes of the House of Tamerlane, had just been borne, full of years and honours, to a mausoleum surpassing in magnificence any that Europe could show. He had bequeathed to his posterity an empire containing more than twenty times the population, and yielding more than twenty times the revenue of the England which, under our great Queen, held a foremost place among European powers. It is curious and interesting to consider how little the two countries, destined to be one day so closely connected, were then known to each other. The most enlightened Englishmen looked on India with ignorant admiration. The most enlightened natives of India were scarcely aware that England existed. Our ancestors had a dim notion of endless bazaars, swarming with buyers and sellers, and blazing with cloth of gold, with variegated silks and with precious stones; of treasures where diamonds were piled in heaps and sequins in mountains; of palaces, compared with which Whitehall and Hampton Court were hovels; of armies ten times as numerous as that which they had seen assembled at Tilbury to repel the Armada. On the other hand, it was probably not known to

one of the statesmen in the Durbar of Agra that there was near the setting sun a great city of infidels, called London, where a woman reigned, and that she had given to an association of Frank merchants the exclusive privilege of freighting ships from her dominions to the Indian seas. That this association would one day rule all India, from the ocean to the everlasting snow, would reduce to profound obedience great provinces which had never submitted to Akbar's authority, would send Lieutenant-Governors to preside in his capital, and would dole out a monthly pension to his heir, would have seemed to the wisest of European or of Oriental politicians as impossible as that inhabitants of our globe should found an empire in Venus or Jupiter."

Of the siege of Derry, the battle of Killiecrankie and the death of Dundee, and the campaigns of William on the Continent, Mr. Macaulay has given stirring descriptions. Without assuming to judge of the technical correctness of these narratives, we can say that he has not fallen into the error against which the Duke of Schomberg warned Burnet, when he told him to avoid being too particular about the details of his battles, for he had always observed most notorious blunders and absurdities committed on such occasions by writers who were not conversant with the art of war. On one point the details of the present historian are thoroughly authentic, and on that point his readers will dwell with greatest interest—the conduct of William of Orange in the field as well as the council. Some have affected to speak slightly of Mr. Macaulay's enthusiasm for the phlegmatic Dutchman, who, they say, with all his qualities, had not in him the elements of true greatness. Such writers talk sneeringly of the *Bataviad*, and cannot understand Mr. Macaulay's enthusiasm for the hero of his book. The story of the Merry Monarch, and Nell Gwynn, and Mr. Pepys, is the highest level to which their souls can reach, and to them the character of William is as incomprehensible as it was to the triflers who regretted the days of the Restoration:—

"One of the chief functions of our Sovereigns had long been to preside over the society of the capital. That function Charles the Second had performed with immense success. His easy bow, his good stories, his style of dancing and playing tennis, the sound of his cordial laugh, were familiar to all London. One day he was seen among the elms of Saint James's Park chatting with Dryden about poetry. Another day his arm was on Tom Durfey's shoulder; and his Majesty was taking a second, while his companion sang, 'Phillida, Phillida,' or 'To horse, brave boys, to Newmarket, to horse.' James, with much less vivacity and good nature, was accessible, and, to people who did not cross him, civil. But of this sociableness William was entirely destitute. He seldom came forth from his closet; and, when he appeared in the public rooms, he stood among the crowd of courtiers and ladies, stern and abstracted, making no jest and smiling at none. His freezing look, his silence, the dry and concise answers which he uttered when he could keep silence no longer, disgusted noblemen and gentlemen who had been accustomed to be slapped on the back by their royal masters, called Jack or Harry, congratulated about race cups or rallied about actresses. The women missed the homage due to their sex. They observed that the King spoke in a somewhat imperious tone even to the wife to whom he owed so much, and whom he sincerely loved and esteemed.

"William was in truth far better qualified to save a nation than to adorn a court. In the highest parts of statesmanship, he had no equal among his contemporaries. He had formed plans not inferior in grandeur and boldness to those of Richelieu, and had carried them into effect with a tact and wariness worthy of Mazarin. Two countries, the seats

of civil liberty and of the Reformed Faith, had been preserved by his wisdom and courage from extreme perils. Holland he had delivered from foreign, and England from domestic foes. Obstacles apparently insurmountable had been interposed between him and the ends on which he was intent; and those obstacles his genius had turned into stepping stones. Under his dexterous management the hereditary enemies of his house had helped him to mount a throne; and the persecutors of his religion had helped him to rescue his religion from persecution. Fleets and armies, collected to withstand him, had, without a struggle, submitted to his orders. Factions and sects, divided by mortal antipathies, had recognised him as their common head. Without carnage, without devastation, he had won a victory compared with which all the victories of Gustavus and Turenne were insignificant. In a few weeks he had changed the relative position of all the states in Europe, and had restored the equilibrium which the preponderance of one power had destroyed. Foreign nations did ample justice to his great qualities. In every Continental country where Protestant congregations met, fervent thanks were offered to God, who, from among the progeny of His servants, Maurice, the deliverer of Germany, and William, the deliverer of Holland, had raised up a third deliverer, the wisest and mightiest of all. At Vienna, at Madrid, nay, at Rome, the valiant and sagacious heretic was held in honour as the chief of the great confederacy against the house of Bourbon; and even at Versailles the hatred which he inspired was largely mingled with admiration."

The more of William that is known the more must his character grow upon those who view it, and we should be tempted very much to estimate a man's intellect and heart by the opinion he entertains of the king after being fairly told his history. That his manners were reserved, his temper severe, and his heart unsympathetic, has been usually admitted even by those who professed for him the greatest admiration. But much of that apparent coldness must be ascribed to his natural disposition, to his feeble health, and to his ignorance of the English language, which never became familiar to him. Those who complained most of his sternness of manner said he was quite different among his Dutch compatriots. That he could be equally frank and friendly with those Englishmen whom he had learned to trust, there are many anecdotes to show. But the treachery, falsehood, and intrigue, which he witnessed everywhere among the leading men of all political parties, compelled him to exercise his natural caution:—

"It is painful, but it is no more than just, to acknowledge that he had but too good reason for thinking meanly of our national character. That character was indeed, in essentials, what it has always been. Veracity, uprightness, and manly boldness were then, as now, qualities eminently English. But those qualities, though widely diffused among the great body of the people, were seldom to be found in the class with which William was best acquainted. The standard of honour and virtue among our public men was, during his reign, at the very lowest point. His predecessors had bequeathed to him a court foul with all the vices of the Restoration, a court swarming with sycophants, who were ready, on the first turn of fortune, to abandon him as they had abandoned his uncle."

The courtiers generally maligned him, but the people honoured him. Defoe, a worthy spokesman and representative of the national feeling, in his 'True-born Englishman,' rightly explains William's shyness towards English counsellors, and confidence in his own countrymen, and in lines of glowing enthusiasm praises the deliverer of the state. Never had ruler a more difficult and laborious part to

play than this constitutional king during the first eight years of his reign. A large part of the nation was hostile to his authority; the army and the clergy both were against him; the administration of the country was in every department feeble and corrupt; the finances embarrassed; the partisans of the Stuarts were perpetually plotting against him; and among the professed supporters of his government there were constant jealousies, intrigues, and treacheries. In gradually meeting and overcoming all these difficulties he proved himself a great ruler, and as he was the first statesman, so he was the first soldier of his time. He showed this by his management of troops when defeated; a rarer quality than the achieving a victory, which often depends on superiority of forces. At the battle of Landen, where his troops were beaten by the French army under their best general, the Duke of Luxembourg, William saved the honour of the day, and drew from Lewis, his rival, the remark, that "in the battle the Duke of Luxembourg behaved like Condé, and since the battle the Prince of Orange has behaved like Turenne." After the battle was lost, when his superintendence as a commander was of no further avail, he displayed the most chivalrous courage in securing the safe retreat of his army:—

"His risk was greater than that which others ran. For he could not be persuaded either to encumber his feeble frame with a cuirass, or to hide the ensigns of the garter. He thought his star a good rallying point for his own troops, and only smiled when he was told that it was a good mark for the enemy. Many fell on his right hand and on his left. Two led horses, which in the field always closely followed his person, were struck dead by cannon shots. One musket ball passed through the curls of his wig, another through his coat: a third bruised his side and tore his blue ribbon to tatters. Many years later grey-headed old pensioners who crept about the arcades and alleys of Chelsea Hospital used to relate how he charged at the head of Galway's horse, how he dismounted four times to put heart into the infantry, how he rallied one corps which seemed to be shrinking: 'That is not the way to fight, gentlemen. You must stand close up to them. Thus, gentlemen, thus.' 'You might have seen him, an eye-witness wrote, only four days after the battle, 'with his sword in his hand, throwing himself upon the enemy. It is certain that, one time, among the rest, he was seen at the head of two English regiments, and that he fought seven with these two in sight of the whole army, driving them before him about a quarter of an hour. Thanks be to God that preserved him.' The enemy pressed on him so close that it was with difficulty that he at length made his way over the Gette. A small body of brave men, who shared his peril to the last, could hardly keep off the pursuers as he crossed the bridge."

Burnet records an interview he had with him the day before he set out on the Irish expedition. It shows how warm and good a heart was beating within that seemingly cold breast.

"On the day before William's departure he called Burnet into his closet, and, in firm but mournful language, spoke of the dangers which on every side menaced the realm, of the fury of the contending factions, and of the evil spirit which seemed to possess too many of the clergy. 'But my trust is in God. I will go through with my work or perish in it. Only I cannot help feeling for the poor Queen; and twice he repeated with unwonted tenderness, 'the poor Queen.' 'If you love me,' he added, 'wait on her often, and give her what help you can. As for me, but for one thing, I should enjoy the prospect of being on horseback and under canvass again. For I am sure I am fitter to direct a campaign than to manage

your Houses of Lords and Commons. But, though I know that I am in the path of duty, it is hard on my wife that her father and I must be opposed to each other in the field. God send that no harm may happen to him. Let me have your prayers, Doctor."

When the king reached the camp, we are told:—

"William was all himself again. His spirits, depressed by eighteen months passed in dull state, amidst factions and intrigues which he but half understood, rose high as soon as he was surrounded by tents and standards. It was strange to see how rapidly this man, so unpopular at Westminster, obtained a complete mastery over the hearts of his brethren in arms. They observed with delight that, infirm as he was, he took his share of every hardship which they underwent; that he thought more of their comfort than of his own; that he sharply reprimanded some officers, who were so anxious to procure luxuries for his table as to forget the wants of the common soldiers; that he never once, from the day on which he took the field, lodged in a house, but, even in the neighbourhood of cities and palaces, slept in his small moveable hut of wood; that no solicitations could induce him, on a hot day, and in a high wind, to move out of the choking clouds of dust, which overhung the line of march, and which severely tried lungs less delicate than his. Every man under his command became familiar with his looks and with his voice; for there was not a regiment which he did not inspect with minute attention. His pleasant looks and sayings were long remembered."

How strange this sounds about the morose, saturnine, phlegmatic man! And again, when we read of him in the midst of the battle of the Boyne:—

"During near half an hour the battle continued to rage along the southern shore of the river. All was smoke, dust, and din. Old soldiers were heard to say that they had seldom seen sharper work in the Low Countries. But, just at this conjuncture, William came up with the left wing. He had found much difficulty in crossing. The tide was running fast. His charger had been forced to swim, and had been almost lost in the mud. As soon as the King was on firm ground he took his sword in his left hand,—for his right arm was stiff with his wound and his bandage,—and led his men to the place where the fight was the hottest. His arrival decided the fate of the day. Yet the Irish horse retired fighting obstinately. It was long remembered among the Protestants of Ulster that, in the midst of the tumult, William rode to the head of the Enniskilleners. 'What will you do for me?' he cried. He was not immediately recognised; and one trooper, taking him for an enemy, was about to fire. William gently put aside the carbine. 'What,' said he, 'do you not know your friends?' 'It is His Majesty,' said the Colonel. The ranks of sturdy Protestant yeomen set up a shout of joy. 'Gentlemen,' said William, 'you shall be my guards to-day. I have heard much of you. Let me see something of you.' One of the most remarkable peculiarities of this man, ordinarily so saturnine and reserved, was that danger acted on him like wine, opened his heart, loosened his tongue, and took away all appearance of constraint from his manner. On this memorable day he was seen wherever the peril was greatest. One ball struck the cap of his pistol: another carried off the heel of his jackboot: but his lieutenants in vain implored him to retire to some station from which he could give his orders without exposing a life so valuable to Europe."

The few extracts we have given from Mr. Macaulay's book, serve rather to keep up the customary form of a review, than to give idea of the subjects of the history. A work of such extent is to be expected to present some points open to criticism. But the care and accuracy of Mr. Macaulay, in regard to his authorities, will leave little room for success-

ful attack on any of the main facts or statements of his book. With regard to minor details, slight errors discovered by fault-finders in the former volumes have probably induced more incessant caution. Yet even on such matters, the critics who thought formerly they had caught him tripping, will little relish some of the new light thrown on old faces. Poor Penn, the Quaker, for instance, "der bekenden Archquaker," as Van Citters calls him, now appears in more hopelessly disreputable guise. "His conduct," says Macaulay, "was scandalous. He was a zealous and busy Jacobite; and his new way of life was even more unfavourable than his late way of life had been to moral purity. It was hardly possible to be at once a consistent Quaker and a courtier; but it was utterly impossible to be at once a consistent Quaker and a conspirator. It is melancholy to relate that Penn, while professing to consider even defensive war as sinful, did every thing in his power to bring a foreign army into the heart of his own country." The moral impurity of which Mr. Macaulay speaks was not confined to his intrigues in public affairs. When his plotting was discovered, and he was brought before the Privy Council, he denied that he "was ever so wicked as even to think of endeavouring to bring him (James II.) back again." "This," says Mr. Macaulay, "was a falsehood, and William was probably aware that it was so. He was unwilling, however, to deal harshly with a man who had many titles to respect, and who was not likely to be a very formidable plotter." Penn's friends had better let him rest in peace now. In a man of less virtue and reputation, the discovery of such failings would not have caused so much surprise, nor their exposure such an outcry of affected indignation. Against Mr. Macaulay, as a historical writer, we have a stronger ground of censure than those that refer to particular passages of the work. There is throughout the narrative an unconscious partiality, which yet scarcely amounts to what may be termed the spirit of political partizanship. The art is wonderfully displayed of arranging a number of facts, each of which rests on good authority, yet, when put together, the whole conveying a wrong impression. This was done formerly in the sketches intended to present the true condition of the clergy and of the country gentry. There are several ingenious exaggerations of this kind in the present volumes, but they are so directly connected with political or ecclesiastical controversy, that we content ourselves with noting this protest in our general admiration of the work.

Journal kept during the Russian War: from the Departure of the Army from England, in April, 1854, to the Fall of Sebastopol.

By Mrs. H. Duberly. Longman and Co. THE story of the great siege of Sebastopol has been many times related, but there is yet room for an account of its incidents and horrors from the pen of a shrewd and adventurous woman. Mrs. Henry Duberly, a dashing Amazon, with an extraordinary passion for horse-flesh and the perils of the chase, accompanied her husband, an officer in the 8th Hussars, on the breaking out of the war, and, regardless of the objections both of Lord Raglan and Lord Lucan, contrived to follow the troops to their final destination, and to be everywhere in the thick of the fight.

She was present at the storming of the Malakof, and the next day writes, "was again at the front, though the fire had considerably slackened, and there was nothing doing. But who could keep away from a place where so many interests were at stake? Not I." Of Mrs. Duberly's husband little or no mention appears in the narrative, but for her "darling Bob," the best water-jumper out of Ireland, her affection is unbounded. "How anxious do I feel as often as I look at that dear old friend, and think of the hardships he has to undergo," and after Bob had been invalided, "Rode my dear old horse to-day, and nearly cried for joy as I felt him straining at the bit." At the races, Mrs. Duberly was really at home. She took an active part in the British Spring Meetings, and tells, with great gusto, how the horses at the hurdle-races went at the fences as if they liked the fun; but the French races she describes as being little more than amusing. "The 'steeple-chase' course, 'avec huit obstacles,' was delightful: the hurdles were not sufficiently high to puzzle an intelligent and active poodle; the ditches were like the trenches in a celery bed; and the wall about two feet and a half high." But it was a merry meeting, she adds, and we lunched afterwards with le Comte Bertrand, on game pie and champagne. The race exercise in our own camp was not without its dangers.

"Saturday, 7th.—Light Division races. The day was perfect; the races well attended; and, had it not been for an accident, the sight of which seemed to stun me, and stop every pulse in my body, we should have had an enjoyable day. In the steeple-chase course they had built a wall, over four foot, and as firm as it could be built, turfed over at the top, and as solid as an alderman's wit. Captain Thomas, R.H.A., and Captain Shifner, two of our best riders, were in the race. The crowd collected round the wall to see the jump, and I shoved my horse in as close as I could. After a moment's suspense, they are off—three noble horses, all well ridden. Mr. Wilkins's horse takes the wall easily, and rushes on; Captain Shifner's horse strikes it with his chest, and, after one effort, rolls over headlong, falling on his rider; Captain Thomas's horse clears the wall, but lands on the man and horse already down.

"At first, neither was supposed to have survived; but at last Captain Thomas moved, and presently they found that poor Captain Shifner was not dead; but the doctors pronounced him so much injured internally as to leave no hope of his surviving the night."

Poor Shifner survived this accident, but only to fall in the Redan. Many a stirring anecdote is told of the valour of the British troops, and here is one of the brave Sir Colin:—

"I am writing late at night, amid a storm of heavy musketry. Occasionally a huge gun flings forth its volume of death, shaking our hut and the table at which I write. All the Guards, and Sir Colin Campbell, are in the trenches to-night; Sir Colin going down as a volunteer, to give a little novelty and spirit to men who—God help them!—after being shot at every third night for ten months, like rabbits in a warren, require a little stimulus, not to give them courage, but to keep them from the heavy sleep induced by the overwhelming heat and the monotonous voices of the guns. The heavy guns are silent now, but the musketry is pouring on, making ghastly 'music in the ear of night.'"

The final assault and capture of the Malakof and repulse from the Redan is told with touching vigour:—

"The perpetual roll of musketry and the heavy voices of the guns continued without intermission,

and the anxious faces of all were strained towards the Malakoff and Redan. By-and-bye wounded soldiers come up from the trenches, but their stories differ, and we can place in them no faith. 'I was in the Redan when I was wounded,' said the first, 'and our fellows are in there now.'

"We have been three times driven out of the Redan," said a second; so we found that we could depend on nothing that we heard, and must wait in faith and patience. We left at about half-past six o'clock, thoroughly tired, and chilled to our very hearts. Since then, within the last half hour, I have heard that Colonel Handcock is dead; and that poor Deane, the young boy, just entering into life and hope, lies in the hospital of his regiment, laid out ready for burial. As he was standing on the parapet of the Redan, waving his sword and urging his men to follow him, a bullet struck him in the eye, and taking an upward direction, passed through the brain. His fearless courage, although for the first time under fire, has been several times remarked. I fear this is but too authentic, as our assistant-surgeon, who was working in the hospital of the 30th, assures me that he saw him brought in dead. The firing is just as continuous,—just as rapid,—just as heavy. I am told the Guards are not yet gone down. Oh! who can tell, save those who are on the spot, in whose ears the guns roar incessantly, what it is to see friends one hour in youth, and health, and strength, and the next hour to hear of them, not as ill, or dying, but as dead,—absolutely dead? Ah! these are things that make life terrible.

"Colonel Norcott, of the Rifles, is a prisoner, and I hear unwounded. He sprang first into the Redan with his usual courage and recklessness; and the two men who followed immediately behind him were instantly shot, and he was taken prisoner before he had time to turn round to look for fresh supports. He will soon be exchanged we hope. Meantime who will buy and keep that pretty, prancing, chestnut pony he was riding last night when he took his way with his battalion to the trenches?"

"Wednesday, 12th.—Since writing the foregoing, I have been three or four times to the front. On Monday we endeavoured to ride as far as the Redan and Malakoff, but were stopped by the Cavalry, who were posted as sentries just this side of the twenty-one gun battery. On Sunday Henry rode up at eleven, A.M., and after making such inquiries after our friends as might tend to relieve our anxieties on their account, he went on to the Redan. He described it to me as a heap of ruins, with wonderfully constructed defences, and with bomb-proof niches and corners, where the Russian officers on duty in the battery lived, and where were found pictures, books, cards, and glass and china for dinner services."

Mrs. Duberly was not long gaining access to the fallen city:—

"Actually in Sebastopol! No longer looking at it through a glass, or even going down to it, but riding amongst its ruins and through its streets. We had fancied the town was almost uninjured—so calm, and white, and fair did it look from a distance; but the ruined walls, the riddled roofs, the green cupola of the church, split and splintered to ribbands, told a very different tale. Here were wide streets leading past one or two large handsome detached houses built of stone; a little further on, standing in a handsome open space, are the barracks, with large windows, a fine stone façade of great length, several of the lower windows having cannonades run out of them, pointing their grim muzzles towards our batteries. Whilst I am gazing at these, a sudden exclamation from Henry, and a violent shy from the pony, nearly start me from my saddle. It is two dead Russians lying, almost in a state of decomposition, at an angle of the building; while in the corner a man is sitting up, with his hands in his lap and eyes open, looking at us. We turn to see if he is only wounded, so life-like are his attitude and face; no, he has been dead for days.

"A little further on we came to the harbour,

and by the many mast-heads we count the number of ships. Here, too, are fragments of the bridge which I had watched the Russians building, and across which I had seen them so often pass and repass. There is a kind of terrace, with a strong wooden railing, overlooking the sea, and underneath us is a level grass-plot, going down with handsome stone steps to the water's edge. Following the wooden railing, we overlooked what had evidently been a foundry and a workshop for the dockyard; Russian jackets, tools and wheelbarrows, were lying about, and hunting among the ruins was a solitary dog.

"But all this time we are trying to find our way to Brigadier General Windham's office near the custom-house. To get there we must ride round to the head of the dry docks, as the bridges are either broken or unsafe. What is it that makes the air so pestilential at the head of the dry docks? Anything so putrid, so nauseating, so terrible, never assailed us before. There is nothing but three or four land transport carts, covered with tarpaulin, and waiting at the corner. For Heaven's sake ride faster, for the stench is intolerable. We go on towards the custom-house, still followed by this atmosphere: there must be decaying cattle and horses behind the houses; and yet they do not smell like this! Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons and Admiral Brunt are riding by, so we stop in a tolerably sweet place to congratulate each other on meeting in Sebastopol. We then continue our road to the custom-house. What is it? It cannot surely be—oh, horror!—a heap, a piled-up heap of human bodies in every stage of putrid decomposition flung out into the street, and being carted away for burial. As soon as we gained possession of the town a hospital was discovered in the barracks, to which the attention of our men was first attracted by screams and cries. Entering, they found a large number of wounded and dying; but underneath a heap of dead men, who, as he lay on the floor, fell over him and died, was an English officer of the 90th regiment, who being badly wounded and taken prisoner, was put into this foul place, and left, as in the case of the hospital near the custom-house, to perish at his leisure, of hunger and pain. He had had no food for three days, and the fever of his wound, together with the ghastly horrors round him, had driven this poor Englishman to raving madness; and so he was found, yelling and naked. I think the impression made upon me by the sight of that foul heap of green and black, glazed and shrivelled flesh, I never shall be able to throw entirely away."

A few days afterwards she paid General Bosquet a visit:—

"We called to-day upon General Bosquet, who was very severely wounded at the assault on the Malakoff, and to our surprise and pleasure, he was sufficiently recovered to be able to admit us. We were shown into his room, which forms one of the compartments of a large wooden hut, and found him reclining in an arm-chair, having been able to sit up only within the last two days. He was struck by a piece of a 13-inch shell under the right arm and on the right side; it had completely smashed all the muscles and sinews, and his arm is as yet powerless above the elbow-joint. He showed us the piece of shell by which he was struck; it could not weigh less than four pounds. It is astonishing how he escaped with life, from a wound inflicted by so terrible an implement of war. He appeared cheerful enough, and glad to 'causer un peu,' said he was ordered away for change of air, but did not wish to leave his post here, and fully coincided in my quotation, pointing to his wounded side, 'On ne marche pas à la gloire par le bonheur.' In his room was a 'fauteuil' taken from Sebastopol, and which he had very appropriately covered with the green turbans worn by the Zouaves of his division."

Here Mrs. Duberly's Journal ends, and she still remains with her horse and husband in the Crimea. There has been no account

of the campaign in which the sufferings of the army have been more fully and incidentally confirmed than in the present, and none in which the bravery of our troops is shown to have been more sustained the while. At the same time we must confess to an opinion that ladies are out of place in such scenes, and much better employed at home.

Contributions to the Edinburgh Review. By Henry Lord Brougham, F.R.S. 3 vols. Griffin and Co.

We have now a complete series of the collected works of the original founders of the 'Edinburgh Review,' Jeffrey, Sydney Smith, and Brougham. The articles of the latter, now first collected and published in a separate form, display in a most striking manner the versatility of their illustrious author. The papers, about fifty in all, are arranged under the heads of Rhetorical articles; History and historical memoirs; Foreign policy general questions, and Foreign policy particular questions; Constitutional questions; Political economy and finance; Criminal law; Physical science; and Miscellaneous, literary and historical. Many articles are omitted, including almost all those on Slavery, Slave-trade, Charitable trusts, and Education, the author giving as the reason, that "the greater part of the measures discussed have long since been adopted by the legislature; and that the measures connected with education, which unfortunately have not yet been adopted, are constantly supported in parliament upon the principles maintained in the papers in this Review; so that the author's speeches contain both the doctrines and the arguments which will be found in those pages." This is the statement in the brief preface to the present publication, dated Cannes, November, 1855. In this preface Lord Brougham also mentions, with much satisfaction, that "his papers on the Greek and Roman orators have obtained the precious approval of the most eminent critic and scholar of our times, M. Villemain, who, in treating of the author's labours on this subject, and principally of these Essays, has described him as "certainement parmi les modernes le meilleur interprète de Demosthène." Lord Brougham may well be proud of this praise *a viro laudato*. His Commentaries on Demosthenes are among the best of all his writings, and they can receive the impartial approval of readers of every political opinion, which cannot be expected in regard to others of the Essays, though the subjects of them are of greater popular interest.

The Commentaries on the Greek Orators were contained originally in No. 71 of the 'Edinburgh Review,' October, 1821, and are reprinted in the first volume of the present collection. Among other most interesting and instructive discussions, there is a comparison of various passages in Demosthenes with the improvements made by the great Orator when delivering similar exhortations to the Athenians on a subsequent occasion. Lord Brougham is quite aware of the doubts that hang over the latest oration, which is commonly called the Fourth Philippic, but he has not mentioned what is probably the true solution of these difficulties—viz. that many of the most learned critics, especially of Germany, regard that Philippic as merely a cento made up from his other speeches by some sophist or critic, and think it was never de-

livered at all. Whatever be the truth, it is a beautiful piece, and Lord Brougham's observations upon the parallel passages are delightful. It is much to be regretted that the works of Demosthenes should be left so much in the hands of schoolmasters and academics, who seldom do more than impart the knowledge of a few pages, with their grammar and philology; and that our orators and statesmen will not, like Lord Brougham and the Marquis Wellesley, make themselves familiar with such noble orations as 'The Crown,' and the Philipics; were they so to direct their studies, they would find an abundant reward in the political and rhetorical knowledge they would acquire; for to those who are thoroughly conversant with Demosthenes, his speeches read with all the fluency and interest of a modern parliamentary debate.

We observe that at least four or five of the articles which Lord Cockburn ascribed to Jeffrey in his biography, are now claimed by Brougham, especially the celebrated paper on Spanish affairs in 1808, which, at the time, made no small noise in the political world, and hastened the establishment of the rival 'Quarterly Review.' Many of the historical and biographical papers have already been reprinted, in different forms, but with little difference of matter, in the 'Lives of the Statesmen of the Reign of George III. and of George IV.' To those who have not that work, this series of Essays from the 'Edinburgh Review,' will supply the most important and interesting sketches, besides containing a variety of useful papers in history and philosophy, literature and science, the whole forming a remarkable miscellany of learning, wisdom, and eloquence.

Greece and the Greeks of the Present Day.

By Edmond About. Constable and Co.
Tolla, a Tale of Modern Rome. Translated by L. C. C. Constable and Co.

THE witty French novelist, Alphonse Karr, tells the story of an ardent Philhellene whom the Greeks robbed of his watch at Thermopylae and of his snuff-box at Marathon. M. About's account of Greece and the Greeks is written quite in the spirit of this story. There is a foundation of truth for the evil reputation of the Greeks at the present day in Western Europe; but little good can result from the levity and exaggeration of a book like this. If we were to judge of ancient Greece and the ancient Greeks by the anecdotes and epithets of Roman writers, we could expect nothing good from such a country, nothing great from such a people. But as the heroic history of Greece tells what the nation could do, and what it was, in spite of many faults of national character, so the War of Independence proved that there still survived some of the valour and virtue of old times in the Hellenic race. The influence of centuries of bondage under the Turks, the recent machinations of Russia, and, most of all, the unfortunate establishment of a Bavarian monarchy in Athens, suffice to account for much of the disappointment among those whose hopes for the revival of the nation were once so sanguine. Byron, in his latter years, had formed a true and calm estimate of the capabilities of the people, when he said, "The Greeks will never be independent; they will never again be sovereigns as heretofore, and God forbid they ever should; but they may be subjects without being

slaves. Our colonies are not independent; but they are free and industrious, and such may Greece be hereafter." And again, "The life of the Greeks is a struggle against truth; they are vicious in their own defence. They are so unused to kindness, that when they occasionally meet with it they look upon it with suspicion, as a dog often beaten snaps at your fingers if you attempt to caress it. 'They are ungrateful, notoriously, abominably ungrateful,' this is the general cry. Now, in the name of Nemesis! for what are they to be grateful? where is the human being that ever conferred a benefit on Greece or Greeks? They are to be grateful to the Turks for their fetters, and to the Franks for their broken promises and lying counsels. They are to be grateful to the artist who engraves their ruins, and to the antiquary who carries them away; to the traveller whose janissary flogs them, and to the scribbler whose journal abuses them! This is the amount of their obligation to foreigners." Let the spirit in which Byron here describes the Greeks influence the readers of M. About's entertaining but unscrupulous sketches. The form of independence and of constitutional government, given to them by the European powers, has had little effect on their national character. They have been delivered from the bondage of oppression, but they have not enjoyed the training and the experience of freemen. The unpopularity of the Greeks at this moment in Western Europe is only throwing their sympathies more strongly into Russian channels. Viewed in this light, a book like this of M. About is mischievous in its tendency, and we regret that so influential a journal as the 'Revue des Deux Mondes' took it so much under its patronage. The 'Spectateur de l'Orient' treats the statements of M. About as jests, too broad to be believed; but there is unfortunately truth in many of his assertions, and a sincere well-wisher to the people will not regret their publication, as the best way of attention being given to the removal or mitigation of acknowledged evils. If Greece had, even under her present Bavarian dynasty, men of liberal and patriotic feeling, such as direct the affairs of Sardinia, there would be hope for the country. Its resources, both as regards commerce and agriculture, are immense. Even M. About admits this:—

"The Greek people is poor, but the country is not so.

"The country, if well cultivated, would produce: for consumption—corn, cotton, oil, fruit, vegetables, timber; for exportation—currants, tobacco, madder, valonia, and especially silk.

"The country is badly cultivated; first, for want of hands; secondly, for want of capital; thirdly, for want of roads. Labour would not be wanting if the country was wholesome, if fever did not decimate families, if a law of exclusion did not repulse Heterochthones and foreigners.

"Capital would not be wanting if business had some promise of security; if lenders could count on the probity of borrowers, or on the integrity of justice, or on the firmness of the government.

"Roads would not be wanting, if the revenues of the State, which are squandered to maintain a fleet and an army, were employed on works of public utility.

"The duty of a government is, to procure by every honest means the increase and well-being of the population, the rigid observance of the laws, and the best possible employment of the State revenues.

"From all which I conclude, that without other resources than her agriculture, Greece would be rich if the government did its duty."

As to commerce:—

"In 1833, Greece possessed 3269 commercial vessels; in 1850, she had 4046, amounting to 266,221 tons. The amount of freight for one year is valued at fifty million drachmas. The Greek trader slips in everywhere, neglects no business, disdains no expedient, and changes his flag each time that he finds it his interest to do so. Also the coasting trade of the Mediterranean belongs almost entirely to Greece. In 1846, the commerce of Constantinople was divided as follows:—

Greek flag	967,000 tons.
English and Ionian	505,000
Russian	335,000
Sardinian	305,000
Austrian	284,000
French	70,000
Neapolitan	51,000

"This little kingdom, without population or capital, had twice as much business with Turkey as England, and thirteen times more than France. The Government which thought of breaking off with Turkey, understands very little the interests of the country."

"The Greek navy, which we see is prosperous and brilliant, would be much more so if the Hellenes had not contracted two bad habits—one is called piracy, the other baratry.

"All my readers know piracy, at least by reputation. It is an industry which has lasted out its time. In ten years, thanks to the discovery of steam, pirates will be as rare in the Archipelago as highwaymen in Beauce.

"Baratry has better prospects. When a Greek captain has sold his cargo and his vessel at a good price, he tears his garments, hangs to his neck a little picture representing a shipwreck, and comes thus decked out to tell his owners, 'The vessel has perished; we forgot at setting sail to put a penny in the money-box at the prow. Saint Christodulus or Saint Spiridon has avenged himself. I hope we shall have better luck another time.' This little speculation is called baratry. It is not easy to prevent it; for the captains are good actors, the sailors good supernumeraries, and 'lies are easily told by a man who comes from a distance.'"

While there is much clever descriptive and statistical information in M. About's book, it abounds with silly anecdotes and monstrous assertions, that prevent any sensible reader having much respect for the author. Here are some amusing examples:—

"In France, if you proposed to a workman to buy his coat, he would thrust his hands into his pockets, and answer: 'My coat is not to be sold.' In Greece, stop a man in the street, and ask him if he will sell his shoes; if you offer a somewhat reasonable price, the odds are ten to one he will return home barefooted. In our travels, when we lodged in the houses of persons pretty well off, we had no need to send to the bazaar; our hosts gave us, at fair market prices, the wine from their cellar, the bread from their oven, and the chickens from their henroost. They would undress, if required, to sell us their clothes; I have brought away with me an Albanian shirt very well embroidered, which I had bought still warm!"

"Two travellers, whom I could name, arrived one morning at one of the prefectures in the north of Greece; they had need of the authorities; they went to see them in travelling costume, that is to say, shabbily dressed. At the prefect's door, one of the two companions discovered in his pocket a pair of old white gloves. 'Let us be smart,' says he to the other, and each one put on a glove. The next day all the authorities of the town returned their visit. Each of these gentlemen had put on one glove. The prefect modestly inquired about fashion and politics; but no one ventured to ask since when people put on only one glove at a time.

"Europe believed at one time that all the Greeks were heroes; I have heard some old soldiers affirm that they were all cowards. I think I am nearer the truth in saying that their valour is discreet and re-

flecting. During the War of Independence, they fought chiefly as skirmishers, behind bushes.

"Canaris, who used to set fire to a fleet by lying alongside of it, was a subject of astonishment to the whole nation. It must not be supposed that all the Greeks were like Canaris, and it is always a bad plan to judge of a nation from individuals. It was not the Greek fleet that attacked Xerxes at Salamis; it was one man, it was Themistocles. The Greeks wanted not to fight; and Herodotus relates, that a voice was heard in the air which exclaimed, 'Cowards! when will you cease to retreat!'"

"A Greek, an officer, was waltzing one evening with a lady, whose bracelet became unfastened; she gave it to him to take care of; he put it in his pocket. The waltz over, the lady remembered her bracelet. 'With a Greek,' she said to herself, 'one must take precautions;' and she plainly asked for her bracelet; it was a jewel worth eight or nine hundred francs. The dancer thus addressed expressed a profound astonishment: 'I had hoped,' said he, 'that you would allow me to keep that souvenir of you.' Porthos is not entirely dead, and the Greek officers have preserved some of the traditions of the time of Louis XIII."

TOLLA is a book more suited to the author's powers and style, being a story purporting to be founded on facts, and only requiring cleverness and tact in the narrator. Yet even here M. About's veracity has been called in question, and a prefatory note to the English translation informs us that he "has raised actions at law for defamation, against the proprietors of those journals which have ventured to assail his character." This has probably only been a smart method of attracting more public attention to his book. It is said that M. Tolla derived the story from an Italian book which was suppressed, on account of the disclosures being dishonouring to an illustrious Roman family. Whether this be so or not, M. About has written a singularly interesting tale, simple in its outline and trite in its subject, but in which the characters are brought out with great skill, and the incidents narrated with much spirit. Victoria Feraldi, the daughter of a count of the holy empire, and the pride of a poor but patrician family, grows up to be the beauty of Rome. Tolla, as she was fondly called, has many envious rivals and many suitors, and she at length is the affianced of Manuel Coromila, the scion of a noble house. The story tells how the love of Tolla and of Manuel or Lello, did not run smooth. His friends were averse to the match, and her rivals schemed to prevent it. After many vicissitudes, Lello goes to travel with his elder brother, accompanied by Ronquette, a jesuitical villain, who undertakes to break off the engagement, and too well succeeds in his design. At Paris, Lello becomes entangled with an actress, and begins to write coldly to Tolla. She has entered a convent during his absence to keep her heart pure from lovers. Scandal maliciously puts other constructions on her temporary retirement. The conduct of Lello is represented to her in its worst colours. After a long struggle she dies broken-hearted, her letters to Lello having been intercepted by Ronquette. But her last escapes the hands of the spy, and Lello is awakened to the true state of matters. Full of shame and remorse he hastens back to Tolla, but he arrives too late. Twenty years after he is still alive, in a palace at Venice, but a solitary and miserable man. Ronquette never ventured to return to Italy. The grief and indignation of Tolla's family, when they learned the real facts of the case, may be readily imagined, as well as

the confusion of Colonel Coromila, his uncle, at whose instigation, chiefly, Ronquette had undertaken his nefarious mission. The father revenged himself for Manuel's treachery, by publishing the letters of the two lovers, with a short statement of facts connected with them. This narrative, published at Paris, is said by M. About to have furnished the materials of his story, and he adds, that Colonel Coromila had the whole edition bought up and destroyed. "This true history," says M. About, "may serve as a useful lesson to parents, to young men with evil counsellors, and to young girls without experience." Whatever may be thought of the genuineness of the story, it cannot be read without deep interest, as a tale of unfortunate love.

A Lady's Second Journey round the World.

By Ida Pfeiffer. 2 vols. Longman & Co.

WE are delighted again to meet with the adventurous Madame Ida Pfeiffer, whose former *Journey round the World* established for her a high name among modern travellers. The route taken this time was by the Cape of Good Hope, Borneo, Java, Sumatra, Celebes, the Moluccas, and adjacent islands, California, Panama, Peru, Ecuador, and the United States. She came to London in the spring of 1851, with the intention of embarking for Australia, but the excitement at that time connected with the recent discovery of the gold-fields, rendered the cost of passage and the expense of living in that part of the world too high for her limited means. She therefore resolved to make Dutch India the first sphere of her explorations and adventures, and of these once-celebrated and still interesting settlements her book contains a full and lively description. From the Dutch territories her journeys among the native tribes of the eastern islands were facilitated, and she also visited Sarawak, Singapore, and other stations which have more direct interest for English readers. Some of the places to which she penetrated had never before been visited by Europeans, and the account of parts of the interior of Borneo, Java, and Sumatra, is a novel contribution to the records of travel. In the *New World* she passed over more familiar ground, but not on that account the less interesting will be found the reports of a traveller so observant, intelligent, and trustworthy. From Madame Pfeiffer's narrative of her former journeys most of our readers, probably, have formed some idea of her character and her style of travelling. With scanty funds, few letters of introduction, and no more luggage than a carpet bag to be carried in her own hand, this elderly and not very robust lady sets out on journeys, the dangers and discomforts of which might well appal the hardiest of the stronger sex. For the credit of human nature, even in its rudest forms, it is satisfactory to know that she rarely met with any insult or hindrance, and of the few complaints recorded in her journal, the worst are made against some of our own countrymen, from whom, however, in general, she acknowledges that she has received the greatest kindness. It is at the same time a little humiliating to be told such facts as the following. In the United States, whenever she found herself in a town where she knew nobody and had no letters of introduction, she had recourse to the editor of a newspaper, and she never met with one to whom her name was not familiar, and a sufficient pass-

port to hospitable attention. On reaching the British territory at Montreal, adopting the same course, she called on the editor of the chief journal of the place, who either had never heard of her, or thought that she might be an impostor. At the hotels and inns of the States, she had always been a welcome guest, but at Montreal, a humble wayfarer, with a single carpet bag, was regarded with suspicion, and after being repulsed at more than one house, she obtained shelter only by showing a piece of gold, and offering to pay for everything in advance. Good explanations of this treatment might no doubt be given, but the fact of her name being so much better known among the Americans than the English is a striking illustration of the comparative education of the two nations. Another practical illustration of the different treatment she met with appears in the statement, that amongst the Dutch and Americans, as soon as she was known, a free passage was given to her, or merely a nominal payment accepted, while all the interest of her friends failed to procure for her the least abatement from the high charges made in ships and other conveyances under English management. For instance, on leaving New Orleans in the *Belfast*, one of the magnificent steamers that ply on the Mississippi, she says, "Captain Taylor, who was also owner of the vessel, when he heard my name, which he said he was well acquainted with through the newspapers, politely declined taking any payment." The same occurred invariably throughout the Union, as it had previously in the Dutch settlements, which made the contrast the greater with the discourtesy afterwards experienced in the British colonies. We can only turn the thing off jocularly, by remarking that there are so many great and distinguished authors always travelling in the British dominions compared with those that appear in other territories, that it would be impossible for any commercial company to show favour to all, and a rigid rule is the only way to avoid disagreeable comparisons and estimates of claims to exemption. In the case of a foreigner and a lady, and one whose circumstances and objects in travelling ought to have been well known, we can only express regret that Madame Ida Pfeiffer has had cause to put on record so many unwelcome truths about British ignorance and discourtesy. If she makes a third journey, we trust that her books or her adventures may by that time have become better known, and secure for her more hospitable attention. Let us not omit also to mention the honourable liberality of the Austrian Government, in having presented Madame Pfeiffer with £150 towards the expenses of her journey. This, and all the individual instances of generosity or kindness are gratefully recorded in the narrative, while the names of some of those who behaved in another spirit have acquired in the same way an unenviable notoriety. It is not pleasant to read that the English captain who took her out to the Cape of Good Hope, after treating her scurvily during the voyage, had not the civility to take her on shore on arriving, "a piece of courtesy," adds the lady, "that was never refused me before by any captain I ever sailed with." But in spite of some misadventures of this stamp, Madame Pfeiffer is too much a woman of the world to allow her estimate of national character to be affected by the behaviour of individuals, and of Englishmen, as of the people of other nations, she records many traits of

generous and considerate conduct towards her in the course of her travels.

Madame Pfeiffer's work opens with her first impressions of England and its people. She came to London on the 10th of April, and remained till the 24th of May, having witnessed, among other sights, the opening of the Great Exhibition. Her brief notes on London scenes and on English character will amuse the reader; but we pass over these, and also her account of the Cape of Good Hope, where the expense of travelling prevented her penetrating to the interior, as she at first proposed. From the Cape she sailed to Singapore, which she visited in her former voyage, and where she knew she could readily find a passage to any part of the East. She proceeded to Borneo, and first visited Sarawak, the territory of the English Rajah Brooke. Her report on this place is the more valuable from her not having seen the Rajah, and her narrative being therefore free from any personal bias. After the manner in which Sir James Brooke has been treated by many in England, his friends may point with satisfaction to this testimony of an impartial eye-witness:—

"Even the wild free Dyaks know his name, and honour him as the liberator of their countrymen, who formerly lived as slaves under the yoke of the Malays, but whom Rajah Brooke has now placed on a footing of equality with them. Every one can in his dominions enjoy in peace the fruits of his industry; the trader may devote his attention entirely to his business; the peasant may have for nothing as much land as he can till, and moreover as much rice as will serve for seed, and for his support till the next harvest-time. The labourer can find employment in the gold, diamond, and antimony mines. The taxes are extremely trifling; the tradesman pays a mere trifle on his shop, the peasant a picul (125 pounds) of rice, and the labourer nothing at all. The chief revenue of the Rajah, besides that from the antimony mines, is derived from the cultivation of opium, which forms the great source of profit for the government, not only here but throughout India."

Captain Brooke, a nephew of the Rajah, received the visitor, who, on presenting her letters of introduction, was assured that her name was so well known to him that any other introduction was unnecessary. Of Sarawak, its people and its government, its commerce and its relations with surrounding regions, much has been published in this country, and Madame Pfeiffer's narrative is chiefly acceptable as confirming the opinions formed by all reasonable and rightly-informed persons as to the benefits that have been conferred by the noble exertions of Rajah Brooke. The official exculpation had not then appeared. While he is a benefactor to the people under his own government, and a terror to the lawless pirates who infest these seas, his name is honourably celebrated among distant tribes to whom the reputation of his exploits has reached. This reputation once stood Madame Pfeiffer in good stead. In the remote interior of Borneo she was surrounded by savages, who threatened violence:—

"Now," I thought, "my last hour is really come." But at this very moment I distinguished the voice of my inestimable cook, who was forcing his way towards me, and calling out that there was nothing to fear, and that this was only their way of bidding us welcome; and as he spoke I saw a little white flag hoisted on the hill as a sign of peace. No one who has not been in imminent danger of a terrible death can, I think, form a very clear idea of the feeling of that moment, or of the sudden revulsion when I knew that I was saved.

The cook had been right. Rajah Brooke's flag was the talisman that protected us; and not only did these dreaded savages do us no harm, but they behaved in the most friendly manner, and invited me to pay them a visit. I accepted, in order to show that I trusted them, and set a value on their invitation.

"This instance of the esteem and veneration in which Rajah Brooke is held by the Dyaks affected me much; for it showed how susceptible these rude nations are of gratitude when they find that they are really honestly and kindly dealt with. I could not help wishing that I had had here some of the enemies of this high-minded gentleman as witnesses of this scene. I think they could hardly fail to have repented of the charges they have brought against him."

This is a specimen of the adventures which Madame Pfeiffer encountered, but she was exposed to more real danger from the climate than the people of these countries. Often exposed to heat, rain, and fatigue by day, and without shelter at night, it is wonderful how she suffered so little in health, being rarely laid up by sickness during all her journeys. From intermittent fever she did at length suffer; and it may be well to mention that she found the most effectual remedy, not excepting quinine, to be Cayenne pepper and brandy. The hardships undergone may be understood from one entry in the journal, where she says:—

"Yesterday and to-day I had really some hardships to undergo. One-third of the way was through jungle grass; the other two-thirds up and down high hills covered with dense forests, and right through several marshes; and I was compelled to go barefoot like the natives of the country. Shoes would infallibly have stuck in the mud and been left behind; and high boots would have become so heavy that I could not have walked in them. Another inconvenience was that I was sure to be, at least once a day, drenched through with the tropical rain, and had then to let my clothes be dried on me by the heat of the burning sun. The only thing that made me amends was the constant beauty of scenery displayed in this mountainous region."

One other extract from the journal of the visit to Sumatra exhibits the lady's spirit and determination:—

"My intention was to stay only a short time at Padang itself, as I wished to visit the Highlands, as they are called,—*Bengol, Mandelling, Antolla, the Great Tobu, &c.*,—and to go among the wild cannibal Battakers. People tried to persuade me from this plan, as they did from a similar one at Sarawak. They told me that, in 1835, two missionaries, Messrs. Layman and Mansor, had been killed and eaten by the Battakers, and that no European could possibly venture among them without a military escort. They advised me to content myself with the Dutch settlements, and not to expose myself to the danger of terminating my life in so horrible a manner. It was, however, precisely for the sake of becoming acquainted with these Battakers,—a people so little known to Europeans,—that I had chiefly desired to come to Sumatra; and as I thought it probable that the very weakness of my sex would be my protection, I determined not to listen to these warning voices."

Of the people of this barbarous district, the Alforas of the island of Ceram, and those of other rarely-visited regions in other islands of the East, many striking accounts are given. Amidst the rudeness and wildness of the most savage tribes, the traits of good feeling manifested to the traveller show that the elements of good exist in the most degraded forms of human nature, and give encouragement to the efforts that are making for the spread of Christianity and its attendant civi-

lizing influences. Leaving the less known fields of Madame Pfeiffer's adventures, let us now give a specimen of her observations in countries more familiar to European travellers and readers. On returning to Batavia, after her journeys among the wild Dyaks, Battakers, and Alforas, the question was, where next? India had formerly been visited, and for Australia she did not then feel great attraction, and as there happened to be a vessel in port for San Francisco, this determined the lady's route. The captain of the ship, on Mr. Reid, the American consul, going to negotiate for the passage, offered to take her this long voyage of ten thousand leagues without any charge whatever. The name of this worthy captain is honourably recorded, Feenhagen, of the ship *Seneca* of Baltimore. They sailed on the 6th July, and reached San Francisco on the 27th September (not August, as printed). The impressions of California and its life are of an unfavourable kind.

"A walk in San Francisco, in short, either for business or pleasure, is a real penance. In what is called the business part of the town you can hardly make your way through for the throng of carts, carriages, horsemen, and pedestrians; and where the streets are not paved with boards you have to wade through sand a foot deep; and all the while you have no better prospect before your eyes than the naked, monotonous sand-hills.

"Truly it is only those who place all happiness in money who could submit, for the sake of gain, to live in such a place, and perhaps forget, at last, that there are such things as trees or a green carpet lovelier than that which covers the gold-laden gaming tables."

After giving an account of the drinking shops, the gambling houses, which are the worst conducted in the world, the mob law, and other bad features of social life in this young country, and also the hospitals and other institutions representing better influences of human nature, the operations at the gold fields are described. Some notices are then given of the Indian tribes of that district, as observed in an excursion to Crescent city, one of the latest of the rapidly raised towns of America. In her first journey in America she made some observations applicable to all her future movements in the States. Among them are such as these:—

"The men, one and all, showed the utmost attention and politeness to our sex. Old or young, rich or poor, well or ill dressed, every woman was treated with respect and kindness; and in this the Americans are far in advance of my countrymen, and indeed of Europeans in general, who usually keep their civilities for youth, beauty, and fine clothes.

"The company remained a very little while at table, and spoke scarcely a word. They really did not give themselves time to eat their food properly, but bolted it burning hot and not half chewed, although nobody had anything to do when the meal was over. They seem to have got into the habit of regarding everything as business, and therefore to be performed with the utmost possible despatch."

The older portions of the States were not visited till after Madame Pfeiffer had been by Panama to Peru, Ecuador, and other parts of South America. These countries have been often described, nor does there appear much novelty in her accounts of them. As to their political condition, the changes are so frequent and unexpected, that little reliance can be placed on what may have very recently been authentic reports. The natural scenery of the country has more enduring interest,

and of the descriptions of this let the following be taken as a specimen:—

"I had the good fortune to see the Chimborazo three times in all its beauty; first, on my arrival at Ambato, then on leaving it, and then on the passage across the mountain itself. The sun himself seemed enraptured with this glorious work of God, and, pouring over it the full splendour of his beams, displayed the virgin snows of its summit in the most dazzling robe of light! I felt really entranced in gazing upon it, but the sublime spectacle was, unfortunately, of short duration, for clouds and mists again gathered around it, and hid this sanctuary of the Cordilleras with their impenetrable veil.

"I remarked that the Chimborazo does not terminate in a peak, but has one great dome or cupola, and three smaller ones, and that between these and the great one there extends a considerable surface, sloping from west to east.

"The most striking view of the mountain is from Ambato, which lies much lower than Guaranda, and whence it really seems to pierce the very heavens, rising into them in a wonderfully symmetrical, rounded form.

"The enjoyment I derived from the contemplation of this magnificent mountain had made me unmindful of toil or danger; but when, just as we reached that small plateau where the Englishman, travelling like me with a single arriero, had been murdered, and the whole region became covered with clouds, I awoke to a sudden consciousness of the desolation of the solitude through which I was journeying. But this day, the fourth from Quito, concluded, like all the rest, in perfect safety, and we reached Guaranda without the slightest accident."

In her journeys in the United States, which she re-entered at New Orleans, the usual good and bad points of American character, life, and manners, are impartially noted. The statements are very much like those of other European travellers.

At the hotels and all public places the sacrifice of real comfort to vulgar show is sorely complained of. The evils of slavery are not passed lightly over, and the treatment of the free blacks by the whites is spoken of in terms such as might have been expected in an Englishwoman. Of female education in the States the author did not form a high estimate, thinking that it was more confined to subjects of display than to the real domestic duties and useful acquirements of the sex.

We conclude our extracts with part of the notice of visits to two of the best writers of America, Bryant and Washington Irving:—

"Mr. Bryant's country seat lies close to Roslyn, on Long Island, thirty miles from New York. It afforded me great pleasure to become acquainted with this gentleman, the editor of one of the first papers here, and known not only in his own country, but in many others, as an author and original poet, as well as for his translations from many of our German ones. He was so kind as to invite me to pass some days at his house, which is easily reached by railroad or steamer; and both routes, especially the last, afford the passenger many fine views.

"In Mrs. Bryant I found the most perfect model of a mistress of a family, uniting in an uncommon degree feminine grace, modesty, and domesticity, with strength of character and intellectual culture. Would to God that not America only, but the world, had many such housewives to show. Gladly would I have stayed for a little the ever rolling wheels of time, while I lingered in this delightful retreat; but the few days I had to pass here flew only too swiftly away.

"Washington Irving's seat lies at about the same distance from the city as Mr. Bryant's, but in another direction, namely, on the river Hudson. This great and genial writer received me with the

most engaging politeness; in his tranquil benevolent-looking face, when in repose, I should rather have found the amiable country gentleman than the literary man of genius; but when he got into conversation his eyes flashed with all the fire of youth, and his whole countenance beamed with spiritual expression. This is one of the rare and happy cases in which nature has been equally bountiful in her endowments to head and heart.

"Washington Irving is a bachelor; but he has brightened his age with the attractions of some amiable nieces, the daughters of his sister, who share with their uncle the enjoyments of his beautifully situated villa; and even in winter he never quits his retirement."

Madame Pfeiffer left New York last November for Liverpool. She subsequently went to the Azores to visit one of her sons who has been long settled, and an account of this Portuguese settlement forms the concluding chapter of her varied and entertaining record of travels.

NOTICES.

Irish Melodies.—By Thomas Moore. Illustrated with Engravings, from Drawings by Eminent Artists. Longman and Co.

To the list of illustrated Gift Books, noticed in our last, we have to add a most beautiful edition of 'Moore's Irish Melodies,' bound in emerald green, containing a dozen sterling engravings, from drawings of the following Academicians:—MacLise, Mulready, Ward, Cope, Creswick, Millais, Egg, Stone, Frost, and Frith. Those which are most to our taste are 'The Meeting of the Waters,' and 'Sweet Innisfallen,' engraved by R. Wallis, from drawings by Creswick. In pearly brilliancy of execution, they surpass anything that we remember lately to have seen, excelling even the landscapes of Turner in artistic purity and truthfulness.

The Entomologist's Annual for 1856. Van Voorst. An extremely praiseworthy effort to promote the cultivation of entomological science, and to bring insect collectors into communion with each other, but calculated to repel rather than to propitiate favour from the flippant manner in which it is edited. Mr. Stainton's great ambition is to become a kind of court jester in entomological circles, but his jests lack wit, and, when not harmless, are offensive. In his list of British entomologists, for example, those who have expressed a willingness to assist beginners are marked with an asterisk, upon which the editor remarks, "The absence of this mark does not necessarily imply that the unstarred entomologist is a reserved selfish animal—some are too occupied to have any time to 'tout' for correspondents." Of instances of self-assurance and gross want of judgment there are many throughout the volume. Mr. Stainton starts with the announcement, that his pet Annual has, in this second year, attained "its maximum of usefulness, and will be read by thousands who are no entomologists," as well, we presume, by all who are. But some of the entomologists of long-established repute will find he has sorely abused their labours. The President of the Entomological Society, Mr. Curtis, will find the plates of his great work highly spoken of, but the letter-press, says Mr. Stainton, is "deficient in quality, and, in fact, had better be considered as not there. The tyro would be led into numberless errors by resting his faith on it." The recipient of the Royal Medal, Mr. Westwood, will find his 'Butterflies of Great Britain' described as being "far from what we could wish. Absurd blunders are repeated, and fresh ones perpetrated, but entomologists of the present day are so little given to reading that few are likely to notice the errors, and perhaps few will be misled by them." And of the 'British Moths' by the same distinguished entomologist, Mr. Stainton says, "The letter-press is inferior to Stephens, and the plates far inferior to Wood: the important distinguishing feature is the figures of the larvae; these are copied from various foreign works, and where

the foreign author had mistaken or confused two larvae the error is repeated. The latter part of the second volume is probably a good sample of how badly a scientific book may be written, by an unscrupulous author, with little knowledge of the subject, copying wholesale from previous authors, who were themselves not trustworthy. We trust the day when such books can be written on Entomology is now past; an inquiring spirit is abroad, which will not accept such trash, even though in the form of quartos, half-bound in morocco." Mr. Stainton records, however, in another place, that "the present year has produced, in England, three Entomological works of unusual importance," and these we have to inform our readers are—the first No. of Mr. Stainton's 'Entomological Annual,' a 'Catalogue of Hymenoptera,' by one of Mr. Stainton's coadjutors in the 'Annual,' and Mr. Stainton's volume on the 'Natural History of the Tinea'; while, for those who are cumbered with the 'British Butterflies and Moths' of Mr. Westwood, it may be mentioned that a new work on the same subject, by Mr. Stainton, is announced for publication. There are other literary misdemeanors we could point to in Mr. Stainton's work, such as the improper garbling, to suit his own views, of our criticism of his volume on the Tinea; but we have said enough to warn him that he must avoid the antics of a charlatan if he wishes to hold a position of honour, as well as industry, in the scientific world, and to gain the respect of his contemporaries.

The Correlation of Physical Forces. By W. R. Grove, Esq. Q.C., M.A., F.R.S. Third edition. Longman and Co.

MR. GROVE'S Essay on the 'Correlation of Physical Forces' carries the generalization of the laws of the material universe as far as the limits of modern discovery and sound philosophy admit. Between some of the physical forces in constant operation, such as gravitation and chemical attraction, heat and light, electricity and magnetism, many striking analogies have always been obvious, and recent scientific researches have established in some of them identity of power amidst diversity of mode of operation. These analogies and discoveries Mr. Grove was one of the earliest to collect and present in systematic shape, in lectures delivered in 1842 and 1843 at the Royal Institution. The history of this interesting and not unpractical theme of philosophical inquiry is fully given in the Essay, with the various facts and phenomena that bear upon the subject in all its departments. The general conclusion to which Mr. Grove's theory points is, that all the agents commonly styled imponderables, as heat, light, electricity, magnetism, &c., are not subtle and occult entities, but, like gravity, are mere modes of motion of the one universal substance called matter. Such is the generalization to which this work invites our assent; but the facts and arguments do not as yet establish more than that the various physical forces appear to be different manifestations of one common agency. But the resolving of all into matter and motion is a premature generalization, it being an open question whether heat, light, &c., are dynamical conditions of the molecules of matter itself, or of an all-pervading medium or ether, the motions of which produce the phenomena not connected with gravity. In the undulatory theory of light, for instance, some hold, with Young, that the motions are those of a permeating ether, while others hold, with Euler, that the molecules of matter itself are directly affected. Such difference of opinion there is even among those who agree in rejecting the old Newtonian theory of emission. Mr. Grove's Essay goes no further than to make it appear probable that heat, light, electricity, and the others of what are called physical forces, are modifications or various manifestations of one common power; but it does not show whether the operations take place on matter passive and ponderable or on a tertium quid, neither matter as commonly defined, nor spirit as implying will and power. In future discussions of these questions, it would be well to commence by a more rigid definition and clear understanding of all the chief terms made use of, the

want of which has led to some confusion, and to much unprofitable argument.

Conversations on Harmony. By the Author of 'Conversations on Botany.' Longman and Co. In the form of conversations, a pleasant and convenient method of conveying instruction to learners, the rules of musical harmony are in this work explained and illustrated. While principally intended for young students, it is a book which may also be prized by all lovers of music, enabling them to understand clearly the theory of the art which they are skilled to practise or accustomed to enjoy. The work is inscribed to Mr. Potter, Principal of the Royal Academy of Music, the sanction of whose name, as a professional man versed in musical tuition, may aid in recommending an excellent manual of lessons on harmony.

Elementary Chemistry of the Imponderable Agents and of Inorganic Bodies. By John Scoffern, M.B. Houlston and Stoneman; Orr and Co.

THE first portion of this treatise, on the general principles of chemistry and on heat, including the philosophy of gaseous bodies, is founded on the corresponding part of the late Dr. Henry's 'Elements of Chemistry,' one of the best manuals of the science ever written. In the other departments of the subject, especially in regard to light, electricity, and magnetism, the state of science has so altered since Dr. Henry's book was composed, that Mr. Scoffern's labours form an entirely new work. The part of the manual relating to the chemical elements and their combinations is also entirely new. The most recent researches and discoveries are recorded, as in regard to the preparation of aluminium on a large scale at Paris, of which Mr. Scoffern states, "within the last year a process for manufacturing it on the large scale has been instituted, under the auspices of the Emperor of the French, by M. St. Claire Deville. Several bars of aluminium have now been produced, and some notions formerly entertained respecting it have been discovered erroneous. For example, the impression was formerly entertained that aluminium could scarcely be fused by the strongest furnace heats, whereas it is now found to melt with almost the facility of silver. Formerly, too, it was believed that aluminium would tarnish by exposure to watery vapour and general atmospheric influences; that notion, too, has been found incorrect. The method of producing aluminium by M. St. Claire Deville is essentially the method formerly known—namely, by the action of sodium on chloride of aluminium. Potassium would have equally answered the purpose, as we have seen, had considerations of economy not interfered with its extensive application. Hitherto no method has been devised for materially lessening the cost of the production of potassium; sodium is, however, now procurable at Paris for about ten shillings per lb. avoidupois." Specimens of the metal, as produced by M. Deville, may be seen at present at the Polytechnic Institution, where demonstrations of its properties are given. Watches and other pieces of the best mechanism are now made of the metal. Mr. Scoffern's book forms part of the series of cheap popular manuals in 'Orr's Circle of the Sciences.' It is copiously illustrated.

Analytical Ethnology: the Mixed Tribes in Great Britain and Ireland Examined. By Richard Tuthill Massy, M.D. Baillière.

THERE are some striking facts and ingenious speculations in Dr. Massy's Analytical Ethnology of the British Isles; but there is also not a little idle gossip on the hackneyed topic of the Celt and the Saxon. However much these races were once distinct, there are now few parts of the country where any approach to a pure breed of either is to be found. Among the earliest British inhabitants are intermingled Phœnicians direct from the Mediterranean or Spain, Celtic immigrants through Gaul, Danes and Jutes from across the German Sea, Anglo-Saxons from the continental provinces of Scandinavia, besides all the mixed people that came into the country in the train of the Roman legions. Ireland has had less mixture of races; but here there has also been much confusion

of Celt and Saxon and Dane and Norman, and other names too frequently used without clear ideas attached to them. There are, however, some physical characteristics of the mixed Irish as contrasted with the mixed English races, and these are described by Dr. Massy, who also points out their connexion with national character. Among the anatomical differences, attention is not confined to the crania, but the whole frame is analytically examined, and the results compared. Thus, the hand of the Celt is described as fine, flexible, prehensile, and agile; that of the Saxon flat, strong, less pliable, and 'spatular-fingered.' The Celtic foot is light, elastic, well-arched, ready for a dash or a leap, corresponding with the susceptibility and quickness of the national mind. The Saxon foot is flat, strongly set, rigid, standing firmly in battle, or moving steadily to the counting house. For this and many similar statements there is a basis of truth, but exaggerated by ethnologists, and every year becoming less distinct in real life. The exceptions and inconsistencies in regard to character, as associated with race, are also so frequent as to render any practical deductions impossible, however entertaining general speculations on the subject may be. For instance, Wellington, an Irish Celt by birth and blood, was at the opposite pole from the typical character of the race, and the fair Saxon Nelson had all the fire, and dash, and 'glory' of the Celt. Though there may never be entire obliteration of historical races, the diminished influence of such natural elements, under the modifying powers of education, religion, laws, and other social circumstances, constitutes, in fact, the progress of modern Christian civilization. Except for purposes of historical or scientific research, every attempt to perpetuate remembrance of distinctness of races is mischievous and objectionable.

A Manual of Electricity: including Galvanism, Magnetism, Diamagnetism, Electro-Dynamics, Magneto-Electricity, and the Electric Telegraph. By Henry M. Noad, Ph.D. Fourth Edition. Knight & Co.

WE have given the whole of the title of Mr. Noad's work, but the volume now before us, consisting of 520 pages, contains only Electricity and Galvanism, forming Part I. of the whole treatise. The Second part will treat of Magnetism and kindred subjects, including the Electric Telegraph. Mr. Noad's lectures on Electricity have already attained an established popularity, from the fullness and accuracy of the information as well as the clearness of the style of the work. The third edition having been for some time out of print, the whole has been re-written and enlarged, and the manual is now more than ever worthy of being received with favour by students and by men of science. Mr. Noad's having had the advantage of the counsel or assistance of Mr. Faraday, of Sir William Snow Harris, Professor Tyndall, and others, in particular departments, may also be mentioned as giving additional sanction to his manual as a scientific work. The style is very exact and clear, advantages gained sometimes at the expense of brevity, but a little tediousness is less objectionable in a printed book on a scientific subject than in a *vis à vis* lecture.

SUMMARY.

A NEW Greek Grammar, for the Use of Schools and Colleges, by W. D. Geddes, M.A., Professor of Greek in University and King's Colleges, Aberdeen (Sutherland and Knox), professes 'to combine the clearness and conciseness of the older Greek Grammars with the accuracy and fulness of more recent ones.' It is certainly a great improvement on the old Elements of Moore which has been hitherto the usual manual in Scottish schools. The most recent researches of Donaldson, Jacob, and Veitch in our own country, and of Sophocles, Burnouf, Kükner, and Krüger, among continental philologists, are embodied in Professor Geddes's Grammar, which, without instituting comparison with other works on the subject, we can recommend as a most comprehensive and concise manual of Greek grammar. Among other novelties in the book,

we observe that our old friend *ἔμμεν* is displaced from its position as the representative Greek verb, though still retained in a secondary place, as befits a word associated with so many striking reminiscences of schoolboy days. The favourite verb of French grammarians, *ἔμμεν*, is rightly objected to by Professor Goddes from its awkward change of quantity in the perfect, as well as its want of any well-defined model for the secondary tenses, and the word *παύω*, I check, is adopted as a model word for representing all the paradigms of the Greek verb. In other parts of the grammar we observe proofs of the ingenuity and good sense of the compiler.

Of the dramatic works of James Sheridan Knowles (Routledge and Co.), a collected edition is published in two neat and convenient volumes. Caius Gracchus; Virginius; William Tell; Alfred the Great; The Hunchback; The Wife; The Beggar of Bethnal Green; The Daughter; The Love Chase; Woman's Wit; The Maid of Mariendort; John of Procida, or the Bridal of Messina; Old Maids; The Rose of Arragon; and The Secretary, are the titles of the author's acknowledged plays. Some of these are still favourites on the English stage, and will remain in our literature as proofs that Sheridan Knowles was one of the ablest, as well as most successful dramatic writers of modern times.

The numbers of *The Family Friend*, published during the past year (Ward and Lock), form an elegant and attractive volume, and present a miscellany of information and amusement surpassed by few of the periodical publications of the day. The numerous descriptions and illustrations of dress, ornaments, needle and crochet work, and articles of personal and domestic use, will have permanent interest for female readers.

A tale, translated from the French, *Jeanne de Vaudreuil* (Nisbet and Co.), contains sketches of scenery, manners, and characters differing from those presented in ordinary stories, and will therefore prove interesting to English readers. The book is pervaded by a truly pious spirit, and conveys profitable lessons. *Oeland*, a story of modern English life, by Alice Somerton (Ward and Lock), if not a literal narrative, might be founded on real facts, and the incidents of the latter portion of the tale, relating to the English army in the Crimea, will suggest feelings which many families throughout the land must have experienced.

A Manual of Domestic Practice of Medicine, by W. B. Kesteven (Longman and Co.), is compiled from various authorities, some of which are indicated in the introduction. The arrangement of the contents is convenient, and the language is suited for non-professional readers.

Among the recent publications of the Camden Society, one of the most curious and valuable is the *Roll of the Household Expenses of Richard de Swinfield, Bishop of Hereford*, during part of the years 1289 and 1290. This was published in 1853, edited by the Rev. John Webb, M.A., who undertook to prefix an abstract of the roll, and historical illustrations, with a glossary and index. It was afterwards thought advisable to divide the work, and Mr. Webb's learned and ingenious commentary has been reserved until now, when it appears in a companion volume to the roll with its endorsement and appendix. The two volumes can be bound together, and while invaluable to archaeologists, the general reader will also find in the work many striking illustrations of English history and life and manners at that early period.

A poem of very irregular structure, *The Ode of Peace* (Longman and Co.), has been written by the Rev. Archer Gurney, whose former poems would have led us to expect something better from him on such a subject. The war is a stern necessity, and statesmen and practical men cannot patiently regard the appeals of philanthropists or the rhymes of poets on the principles of the struggle. To plead for peace befits Mr. Gurney's sacred profession, but let him remember that it was a truly Christian soldier and ruler who took for his motto, "Pax queritur bello." Too hasty a peace will only leave the smouldering elements of future wars, less easy to manage perhaps than that which is now

proceeding as auspiciously as can be expected. *Conquerage: A War Idyl*, by T. Forster Ker, author of 'Voices for Progress' (Churchill), is inscribed to a member of the peaceful Society of Friends, Jacob Bell, in which, with less ability than in Mr. Gurney's poem, more natural and patriotic feelings are expressed.

A cheap edition is published of *The Alpha, a Revelation but no Mystery*, by Edward N. Denny (C. H. Clarke), which we formerly characterized as "an extraordinary book, containing some ingenious speculations and eloquent writing." We meant the term extraordinary to apply to the eccentricity of the manner rather than to the value of the matter; just as we might say of its author that he is an extraordinary looking man, without implying that he is either a Hercules or an Antinous. But Mr. Denny has extracted fragments of the qualified praise on his work from our own and other reviews of his book, in the preface to the present edition, a system of blowing one's own trumpet not to be commended even in this age of puffing. In a supplemental chapter those criticisms of his reviewers are referred to which seemed most convenient to answer, but the real objections to Mr. Denny's speculations, as stated by us when they were first published ('L.G.' 1851, p. 12), he takes good care to avoid meddling with.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Adams's Sacred Allegories, 4to, cloth, £1 5s.
 Agular's (G.) Woman's Friendship, 4th edition, fcap., 6s. 6d.
 Aiton's (J.) Clerical Economics, fcap., cloth, 4s. 6d.
 Alton Locke, 12mo, boards, 2s.
 Art Journal, 1855, new series, Vol. 1, £1 11s. 6d.
 Ballads of Ireland, 2 vols., post 8vo, cloth, new ed., 10s.
 Bevan's (Rev. D.) Food for Babies, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Bonner's (J.) Child's History of the United States, 7s.
 Catlow's Popular Garden Botany, square, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Charlie Grant, 16mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
 Christian (The) Year, fcap., cloth, new edition, 7s. 6d.
 Claude de Vesci, 2 vols., 12mo, cloth, 9s.
 Cole's (J. W.) Lives of Generals, 2 vols., p. 8vo, cl., £1 1s.
 College Atlas, royal 8vo, half-bound, 12s.
 Cornwall's (B.) English Songs, new ed., 24mo, 2s. 6d.
 Cripple (The) at Antioch, small crown 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Donaldson's (Professor) Geological Staircase, 12mo, 10s. 6d.
 Dorothy, 12mo, cloth, 4s. 6d.
 East India Register, 1856, sewed, 10s., bound, 11s. 6d.
 Elliott's (C.) Hours of Sorrow, 12mo, cloth, 2s.
 Exhibition of Art Industry, Paris, 1855, 4to, cloth, 10s.
 Family Prayers, 12mo, cloth, new edition, 3s. 6d.
 — for a Feast, 8vo, cloth, 3s.
 Galbraith and Houghton's Euclid, 12mo, sewed, 1s.
 Gaultier's (Bon) Ballads, square, cloth, 8s. 6d.
 German Stories, post 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Gleadow's (Rev. T. L.) Daily Prayers, post 8vo, cl., 2s. 6d.
 Gowing's (G. J.) Sermons on the Lord's Day, fcap., cl., 5s.
 Grimm's Household Stories, 2 vols., cloth, gilt, 12s.
 Herschell's (Rev. R. H.) Jewish Witnesses, 12mo, cl., 2s. 6d.
 — Mystery, 12mo, cloth, new ed., 3s. 6d.
 — Visit, 12mo, cloth, new ed., 2s. 6d.
 History of Sir Thomas Thumb, illustrated, 8vo, 7s. 6d.
 Hogg's Instructor, new series, Vol. 5, 8vo, cloth, 6s. 6d.
 Horatius, illustrated, 12mo, morocco, 9s.
 Humphrey's (E. R.) Manual of Political Science, fcap., 3s. 6d.
 James's (G. P. R.) Prince Life, square, cloth, 1s. 6d.
 Jones's (W. W.) Poems, fcap., cloth, 4s. 6d.
 Junior (The) Atlas, royal 8vo, half-bound, 5s. 6d.
 — Classical Atlas, royal 8vo, half-bound, 5s. 6d.
 Kavanagh's (Miss) Rachel Gray, post 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Kingley's (C.) The Heroes, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Lane's (R. J.) Month at Malvern, post 8vo, boards, 3s. 6d.
 — Spirits and Water, post 8vo, boards, 3s. 6d.
 Lester's (Rev. J. W.) Orations, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 2s.
 Library of Biblical Literature, Vol. 3, 12mo, boards, 2s.
 Longfellow's Poems, complete, containing Hiawatha, 6s.
 Lyra Germanica, 12mo, cloth, new edition, 5s.
 Martin's (J. R.) Tropical Climates, new edition, 8vo, cl., 16s.
 McGowan's Evelyn Gray, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Meredith's (G.) Shaving of Shagpat, post 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Milman's (Dean) Latin Christianity, Vols. 4, 5, and 6, £2 2s.
 Napoleon Bonaparte's Confidential Correspondence, £1 6s.
 Naughty Boys, 12mo, cloth, 4s.
 Nellie of Truro, 12mo, boards, 2s.
 Painted (The) Window, post 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Parkinson's (W.) Poems, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Parnauvel's (O. T.) Trip to Turkey, 18mo, cloth, 2s.
 Paterfamilias's Diary of Every Body's Tour, fcap., cloth, 5s.
 Picture Pleasure Book, folio, boards, 6s.
 Poetry Book for Children, 12mo, cloth, new edition, 2s. 6d.
 Foulton's (J. S.) New History of England, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
 Pretty's (J. R.) Aids during Labour, fcap., cloth, 4s. 6d.
 Prince (The) of the House of David, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Princess Ilse, 16mo, cloth, 5s.
 Puss in Boots, illustrated, new edition, square, sewed, 1s. 6d.
 Reach's (A. B.) Clement Lorimer, 12mo, boards, 1s. 6d.
 Readings on the Morning Prayer, 12mo, cloth.
 Reid's (Capt.) Bush Boys, 12mo, cloth, 7s., coloured, 10s. 6d.
 Scenes and Thoughts from History, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Seeman's Psalms, square, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Shipton's (A.) Whisper in the Palms, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Smedley's (F. E.) Fortunes of the Colville Family, 2s. 6d.
 Smith's (E.) The Mingled Yarn, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Song without Words, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Spindle's (N.) Companion in the Closet, 12mo, cloth, 4s.
 Stephen's (H.) Catechism of Practical Agriculture, 1s. 6d.
 Stewart's Works, Vol. 8, Political Economy, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
 Stoddard's (Rev. D.) Syrian Grammar, 8vo, boards, 7s. 6d.
 Tyas's Beautiful Birds, 3 vols., fcap., £1 2s. 6d., Vol. 3, 7s. 6d.
 Ullman's Reformers, 8vo, cloth, Vol. 2, 10s. 6d.
 Visiting My Relations, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Wood's (J. G.) Natural History, illustrated, 12mo, cloth, 6s.

SAMUEL ROGERS.

THE last of the bright constellation of poets conspicuous at the beginning of this century has at length passed away. In recording, three years ago, the death of Thomas Moore, we remarked that Crabbe, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Southey, Scott, Byron, Campbell, with others of lesser brightness and magnitude, had disappeared, leaving Rogers and Montgomery alone of the poets of a former generation. James Montgomery, who was born nine years after Rogers, is since gone, and now, at the good old age of 92, we have lost the Nestor of English literature. There is now not one left of "the English Bards," with whom the "Scotch Reviewers" had to do in the young days of the 'Edinburgh,' and when as yet the 'Quarterly' was not. We have no purpose of following the example of the literary undertakers, who on the occasion of every death at a great age, string together some curiosities of chronology, and enumerate the leading events of the history of the world that have occurred since the birth of the subject of the memoir. Thus we are told that Samuel Rogers could remember the battle of Bunker's Hill and Brandywine, and that only three or four years before his birth Colonel Clive gained the battle of Plassy! Almost the same list of events was last year used on the occasion of the death of Dr. Routh, and might with far more propriety be suggested by the death of any poor Chelsea pensioner at an advanced age. These political events have as little to do with Rogers as with Routh, or with any centennarian who dies in a hospital or a workhouse. Somewhat more to the purpose it is to know that Rogers well remembered the times of Garrick and Johnson, and used to tell anecdotes of those days that he had heard in his early life. He remembered "the talk of the town" when the great lexicographer wrote his letter to Lord Chesterfield. Rogers was but a youth then, and he has told, to our own knowledge, how he once went to Bolt-court with some poetry to show to Johnson, and how his heart failed him after knocking at the door, and he ran away without going in.

That the name of Rogers will remain among the classical poets of England, we have little doubt. He is a remarkable instance of what industry and taste will effect for poetic reputation even with feeble genius. Elegance alone can never suffice for popularity, and correctness of diction alone will not give classic rank without energy of thought or felicity of invention. But it cannot be too frequently impressed on young poets, that without exercised taste and careful execution, the works of greatest genius will inevitably perish. If the name of Rogers lives when those of greater natural genius are forgotten, it will be because he has striven to satisfy the taste as well as to excite the passions of his readers, and has used to the utmost every assistance of literary art. His poems rarely surprise by brilliancy of fancy, or strike by originality of thought, yet they please by their genial spirit and their refined taste. So smooth, so polished, so elegant is the diction, that he almost deserves to be styled "The Addison of Verse."

His poems are too familiarly known to call for more than passing notice of them now. It is nearly seventy years since his first work appeared, 'An Ode to Superstition, and other Poems,' published in 4to., in 1786. 'The Pleasures of Memory' appeared in 1792, followed by 'An Epistle to a Friend, and other Poems,' in 1798. A volume of 'Poems, including the Voyage of Columbus,' was published in 8vo., in 1812; 'Jaqueline,' a tale, printed with Lord Byron's 'Laura,' in 12mo., 1814; and 'Human

Life, a Poem,' in 1819. Although a contemporary of the new school of poetry then rising into notice, Rogers showed none of the tastes of the literary revolution which nearly coincided with the political revolution of that epoch. His early poetry seemed rather an echo of the olden strains of Goldsmith and Gray, and in the concluding note to the 'Pleasures of Memory,' he says, "If I have erred anywhere in the structure of my verse from the desire to follow yet earlier and higher examples, I rely on the forgiveness of those in whose ear the music of our old versification is still sounding." The italics are his own, and mark emphatically his spirit and ambition in all his poems. He gave the highest finish of art to whatever he wrote, and though the materials were often scarcely worth the amount of labour, the results are more pleasing than much of our later poetry, the meaning of which is painfully obscure, and the construction deficient in skill or taste. In Rogers's poetry we constantly mark not merely admiration but imitation of earlier classic poets, as in these characteristic and beautiful lines from the 'Pleasures of Memory.'

"The school's low porch, with reverend mosses grey,
 Just tells the pensive pilgrim where it lay,
 Mute is the bell that rung at peep of dawn,
 Quickening my truant feet across the lawn:
 Unheard the shout that rent the noon-tide air,
 When the slow dial gave a pause to care,
 Up springs, at every step, to claim a tear,
 Some little friendship formed and cherished here;
 And not the lightest leaf, but trembling teems
 With golden visions and romantic dreams!"

Or the picture of the boy leaving his village home:—

"The adventurous boy, that asks his little share,
 And hies from home with many a gossip's prayer,
 Turns on the neighbouring hill, once more to see
 The dear abode of peace and privacy;
 And as he turns, the thatch among the trees,
 The smoke's blue wreaths ascending with the breeze,
 The village common spotted white with sheep,
 The church-yard yews round which his fathers sleep,—
 All rouse reflection's sadly pleasing train,
 And oft he looks and weeps, and looks again."

The key-note of such a passage as this is struck from Goldsmith's 'Deserted Village,' and in the following lines we have some of the very words of Gray:—

"Far from the joyless glare, the maddening strife,
 And all the dull impertinence of life,
 Those eyelids open to the rising ray,
 And shut, when nature bids, at close of day."

In the later miscellaneous poems, including the fragment about Columbus, there are bolder efforts of invention and greater originality of diction, yet we revert with most satisfaction to the chaste elegance of some passages of the earlier poetry, such as this, which may be given as representative of the taste and style of Rogers:—

"When Joy's bright sun has shed his evening ray,
 And Hope's delusive meteors ceased to play;
 When clouds on clouds the smiling prospect close,
 Still through the gloom thy star serenely glows,
 Like yon fair orb she gilds the brow of night
 With the mild magic of reflected light."

In 'Italy' the charm is derived from the interest of the subject more than the excellence of the poetry, and most readers will deem it a book of vegetable diet compared with the record of Byron's pilgrimage over the same regions. But there are some beautiful passages, and the best prose that Rogers has written appears in the notes to that poem. Of one of these, on making allowance for difference of national character, suggested by the assassinations so frequent at Rome, it was said by Mackintosh that "Hume could not improve the thoughts, nor Addison the language." The illustrated editions of his collected poems mark a new era in the history of poetical publications. They were almost the earliest volumes that appeared in a style of magnificence since followed in many editions of classical works, the first artists of the age contributing designs for the engravings. The experiment was eminently successful, and we remember that the volume of poems, published at a guinea, rose shortly after in price much higher. Rogers behaved generously, as was always his wont, to the artists whom he employed. He invited Turner, Stothard, Flaxman, Prout, and others, to send water-colour sketches, and while

he selected those which pleased him, he paid liberally for all the designs they submitted to him. The work is said to have cost 10,000*l.* However this may be, it is a monument of his wealth, liberality, and taste, and will help to connect his name as a poet with much that is beautiful and refined in art. His general patronage of the fine arts, and his taste as a connoisseur, are well known. His residence in St. James's Place is a treasure-house of choicest works of art, on the selectness rather than the number or rarity of which he was wont to pride himself.

Of his personal character, his literary pursuits, and his way of life, abundant illustrations are found in the many biographies of his contemporaries that have of late years appeared. The most familiarly known associations are those of his middle age, when he was mixed up with the London life of Byron, Moore, and Campbell. The four once formed a *partie carrée*, the report of the conversation at which it would be pleasant to have. To each of them he was an attached and a useful friend. It was Rogers who prevented the duel between Jeffrey and Moore, and made them friends at his house. To Byron he suggested themes for his poetry; and to Campbell, among other proofs of friendship, he advanced 500*l.* without security, to purchase his share in the 'Metropolitan Magazine.' The spirit of Rogers in society was not agreeable, as may be gathered from one of the entries in Moore's Diary, 'Rogers amusing and sarcastic as usual.' He was not a sincere man in his conversation, his compliments and his satire being equally disagreeable, but the style of speech in both cases had become habitual to him, and was not directly the result of want either of truth or kindness. He retained, till very recently, in spite of the accident which befel him some years ago, of being run over by a carriage, his memory and his liveliness, and often delighted those around him by his recollections of former times and his anecdotes of men and of books.

Mr. Rogers died at his house at St. James's Place on the 18th inst., in his 93rd year. He was a Fellow of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies, the father indeed of the latter, he being at his death the only member whose admission (in 1796) dated from last century. Of both Societies, however, he was merely a dilettante member.

ARCTIC DISCOVERY.

SIR EDWARD BELCHER has communicated the following remarks on the trunk of a tree discovered erect as it grew within the Arctic circle, in 75.32 N., 92 W., to the northward of the narrow strait which opens into the Wellington Sound. 'Having despatched several shooting parties in quest of hares and ptarmigan, one commanded by the boatswain returned about midnight, on the 12th of September, 1853, bringing the report that they had discovered the heel of the topgallantmast of a ship in an erect position, about one and a-half miles inland, and the carpenter's mate, one of the party, asserting that it was certainly "a worked spar" of about eight inches diameter, seemed to confirm this report. Such a communication from such authorities, and considered of sufficient importance to awake me, startled me not a little. One point, however, was not so clear to my imagination,—it was too far inland, and, moreover, in a hollow. On the morrow I proceeded, accompanied by the boatswain, armed with picks and crow's, to search for and bring in this discovery, but it was not without great difficulty that it was re-discovered, snow having nearly obliterated the footmarks of the previous day. I at once perceived that it was not a mast, nor a worked spar, nor placed there by human agency. It was the trunk of a tree which had apparently grown there and flourished, but at what date who would venture to determine? At the period when whales were thrown up and deposited, as we found them, at elevations of 500 to 800 feet above the present level of the sea, and the land generally convulsed, and also when a much higher temperature prevailed in these regions, this tree probably put forth its leaves,

and afforded shade from the sun. Such a change of climate just then would have been peculiarly acceptable! I directed the party which attended me to proceed at once to clear away the soil, the frozen mud splintering at every effort like glass. The stump was at length extracted, but not without being compelled eventually to divide the tap root; and collecting together the portions of soil which were immediately in contact, and surrounding the tree, in the hope of discovering impressions of leaves or cones, the whole was carefully packed in canvas, and eventually reached this country. Near to the spot in question, I noticed several peculiar knolls, from which I was led to infer that other trees had grown there, and I caused them to be dug into, but they proved to be peat mosses, about nine inches in depth, and, on closer examination in my cabin, proved to contain the bones of the lemming in such extraordinary quantity as to constitute almost a mass of bony manure. Through the kindness of Dr. Hooker, the entire matter having been forwarded to Sir W. Hooker at Kew, I am enabled to furnish the following interesting remarks:—The piece of wood brought by Sir Edward Belcher from the shores of Wellington Channel belongs to a species of pine—probably to the *Pinus (abies) alba*, the most northern conifer. This, the "white spruce," advances as far north as the 64th parallel, and must be often floated down the great rivers of North America to the Polar Ocean. The structure of the wood of the specimen brought home differs remarkably in its anatomical characters from that of any other conifer with which I am acquainted. Each concentric ring (or annual growth) consists of two zones of tissue; one, the outer, that towards the circumference is broader, of a pale colour, and consists of ordinary tubes of fibres of wood marked with discs common to all coniferæ. These discs are usually opposite one another when more than one row of them occur in the direction of the length of the fibre, and what is very unusual, present radiating lines from the central depression to the circumference. Second, the inner zone of each annual ring of wood is narrower, of a dark colour, and formed of more slender woody fibres, with thicker walls in proportion to their diameter. These tubes have few or no discs upon them, but are covered with spiral striae, giving the appearance of each tube being formed of a twisted band. The above characters prevail in all parts of the wood, but are slightly modified in different rings; thus the outer zone is broader in some than in others, the disc-bearing fibres of the outer zone are sometimes faintly marked with spiral striae, and the spirally marked fibres of the inner zone sometimes bear discs. These appearances suggest the annual recurrence of some special cause that shall thus modify the first and last formed fibres of each year's deposit, so that that first formed may differ in amount as well as in kind from that last formed, and the peculiar conditions of an arctic climate appear to afford an adequate solution. The inner or first formed zone must be regarded as imperfectly developed, being deposited at a season when the functions of the plant are very intermittently exercised, and when a few short hours of hot sunshine are daily succeeded by many of extreme cold. As the season advances the sun's heat and light are continuous during the greater part of the twenty-four hours, and the newly-formed wood fibres are hence more perfectly developed; they are much larger, present no signs of striae, but are studded with discs of a more highly organized structure than are usual in the natural order to which this tree belongs. E. B.

PAPER MANUFACTURE.

The following memoir, 'On Papyrus Bonaparteæ, and other plants, which can furnish fibre for paper pulp,' is by the Chevalier de Clausen. "The paper-makers are in want of a material to replace rags in the manufacture of paper, and I have turned my attention to this subject, the result of which I will now communicate. To make this matter more

comprehensible, I will explain what the paper manufacturers want. They require a cheap material, with a strong fibre, easily bleached, and of which an unlimited supply may be obtained. I will now enumerate a few of the different substances which I have examined for the purpose of discovering a proper substitute for rags. Rags containing about 50 per cent. of vegetable fibre, mixed with wool or silk, are regarded by the paper-makers as useless to them, and several thousand tons are yearly burned in the manufacture of prussiate of potash. By a simple process, which consists in boiling these rags in caustic alkali, the animal fibre is dissolved, and the vegetable fibre is available for the manufacture of white paper pulp. Surat, or jute, the inner bark of *corchorus indicus*, produces a paper pulp of inferior quality, bleached with difficulty. Agave, phormium tenax, and banana or plantain fibre (*Manilla hemp*), are not only expensive, but it is nearly impossible to bleach them. The banana leaves contain 40 per cent. of fibre. Flax would be suitable to replace rags in paper manufacture, but the high price and scarcity of it, caused partly by the war, and partly by the injudicious way in which it is cultivated, prevents that. Six tons of flax straw are required to produce one ton of flax fibre, and, by the present mode of treatment, all the woody parts, or shoves are lost. By my process, the bulk of the flax straw is lessened by partial cleaning before retting, whereby about 50 to 60 per cent. of shoves (a most valuable cattle food) are saved, and the cost of the fibre reduced. By the foregoing will be seen that the flax plant only produces from 12 to 15 per cent. of paper pulp. All that I have said about flax is applicable to hemp, which produces 25 per cent. of paper pulp. Nettles produce 25 per cent. of a very beautiful and easily bleached fibre. Palm leaves contain 30 to 40 per cent. fibre, but are not easily bleached. The bromeliaceæ contain from 25 to 40 per cent. fibre. *Bonaparteæ juncoideæ* contains 35 per cent. of the most beautiful vegetable fibre known. It could not alone be used for paper pulp; but for all kinds of manufactures in which flax, cotton, silk, or wool, are employed. It appears that this plant exists in large quantities in Australia; and it is most desirable that some of our large manufacturers would import a quantity of it. The plant wants no other provisory preparation than cutting, drying, and come pressing like hay: the bleaching and finishing of it may be done here. Ferns give 20 to 25 per cent. fibre; not easily bleached. *Equisetum* from 15 to 20 per cent. inferior fibre, easily bleached. The inner bark of the lime-tree (*tilia*) gives a fibre easily bleached, but not very strong. *Althea* and many malvacæ produce from 15 to 20 per cent. paper pulp. Stalks of beans, peas, hops, buckwheat, potatoes, heather, broom, and many other plants, contain from 10 to 20 per cent. of fibre, but their extraction and bleaching present difficulties which will probably prevent their use. The straws of the cereals cannot be converted into white paper pulp after they have ripened the grain; the joints or knots in the stalks are then so hardened that they will resist all bleaching agents. To produce paper pulp from them they must be cut green before the grain appears, and this would probably not be advantageous. Many grasses contain from 30 to 50 per cent. of fibre, not very strong but easily bleached. Of indigenous grasses, the ryegrass contains 35 p.c. of paper pulp, the thalassia 50 p.c., arranatherium 30 p.c. and dactylis 30 p.c. Carex 30 p.c. Several reeds and canes contain from 30 to 50 p.c. of fibres easily bleached. The top of the sugar cane gives 40 p.c. of white paper pulp. The wood of the coniferæ gives a fibre suitable for paper pulp. I made this discovery accidentally in 1851, when I was making flax-cotton in my model establishment at Stepney, near London. I remarked that the pine wood vats in which I bleached were rapidly decomposed on the surface into a kind of paper pulp. I collected some of it, and exhibited it in the Great Exhibition, but as at that time there was no want of paper material, no attention was paid to it. The leaves and top branches of Scotch fir produce 25 p.c. of

paper pulp; and sawdust, the shavings of wood from Scotch fir, give 40 p.c. pulp. The cost of reducing to pulp and bleaching pine-wood will be about three times that of bleaching rags. As none of the above-named substances or plants would entirely satisfy on all points the wants of the paper-makers, I continued my researches, and at last remembered the papyrus (the plant of which the ancients made their paper), which I examined and found to contain about 40 p.c. of strong fibre, excellent for paper and very easily bleached. The only point which was not entirely satisfactory was relative to the abundant supply of it, as this plant is only found in Egypt. I directed, therefore, my attention to plants growing in this country, and I found, to my great satisfaction, that the common rushes, *juncus efusus*, and others) contain 40 per cent. of fibre quite equal, if not superior, to the papyrus fibre, and a perfect substitute for rags in the manufacture of paper, and that one ton of rushes contains more fibre than two tons of flax straw.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE managers of the Kensington Conversazione Meetings, whose pleasant evenings were so fully attended last season at Great Camden House, have made arrangements for holding two *Conversazioni*, on the 10th January and 27th March next, in the large room of the Kensington Proprietary School. In the list of Council we observe the names of five Members of the Royal Academy,—Cope, Creswick, Webster, Cooke, and Horsley,—and we doubt not that with their exertions and influence there will be an attractive display of works of art on the occasions. *Conversazioni* are also announced for the 8th January and 16th April, 1857, but we forbear in these perilous times from looking so far into futurity.

The Inaugural General Meeting of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society was held on the 14th instant, at Crosby Hall, and there seems to be every prospect of its being established on a sound basis. The number of members registered to this day is 192; and, as the subscription is only ten shillings a-year, we trust to see it speedily augmented. The objects of the Society are—1. To collect and publish the best information on the Ancient Arts and Monuments of the Cities of London and Westminster, and of the County of Middlesex; including Primeval Antiquities; Architecture, Civil, Ecclesiastical, and Military; Sculpture; Works of Art in Metal and Wood; Paintings on Walls, Wood, or Glass; Civil History and Antiquities, comprising Manors, Manorial Rights, Privileges and Customs; Heraldry and Genealogy; Costume, Numismatics; Ecclesiastical History and Endowments, and Charitable Foundations, Records, and all other matters usually comprised under the head of Archaeology.—2. To procure careful observation and preservation of antiquities discovered in the progress of works, such as Excavations for Railways, Foundations of Buildings, &c.—3. To make, and to encourage individuals and public bodies in making, researches and excavations, and to afford them suggestions and co-operation.—4. To oppose and prevent, as far as may be practicable, any injuries with which Monuments and Ancient Remains of every description may, from time to time, be threatened; and to collect accurate drawings, plans, and descriptions thereof.—5. To found a Museum and Library.

Mr. Macaulay gives a graphic sketch of the Highlands of Scotland at the close of the seventeenth century, and describes the altered state of the country after the rebellions of 1715 and 1745. Would that his glowing pen had to narrate the cruel wrongs of the Highlanders at a later period, when driven from their native soil by degenerate chiefs, who for gain or sport turn their once populous domains into sheep-walks or deer-forests. Instead of all the Highlanders being driven to the distant backwoods of Canada, the editor of the *Witness* proposes that the Crimea might be given to them as a resting-place, where they might be of service to

their country. The article in which this is proposed thus concludes:—"What is to be done with the Crimea? We have seen it suggested, in a very respectable quarter, that it should be handed over to Sardinia; for what good reason it is not very easy to discern. The Sardinians have a good country of their own, from which they have shown no desire to emigrate, and which, we would fervently hope, may be soon augmented by the adhesion of neighbouring States emulous of the privileges of a free people. France and England have already more territory than is quite good for them. But why not give it to our own Highlanders? If they are to be expatriated from their native glens, to give place to the grouse, the deer, and the ptarmigan, why suffer them to be scattered abroad to the four winds of heaven? Why not provide them a home, where, living together, the ties of an ancient nationality may be kept up, and ancestral associations may not pass away and be forgotten for ever? And what corner of the earth can be more eligible, or less contestable, in this point of view, than the country which, since the days of the warlike Thracians, has so frequently changed masters, that it may be regarded almost as neutral ground? For that land they have shed their blood; for its emancipation from Russian foes they have displayed their wonted firmness and heroism; its craggy shores and snow-capped mountains will remind them of their native land, and the old Buxine will re-echo the roar of their own Atlantic. Let them once be put in fair possession of the soil, under British protection, and we warrant they will not let it easily out of their hands. *Adhesiveness* is an organ pretty largely developed in the Highland character. Our Stuarts and Macdonalds are match any day for the *Koffs* and *Kinskis* of Slavonic blood. Furnished with the muniments of war and the implements of peace, they would form, in combination with the natives, a colony of steady, virtuous, and warlike peasantry, who might in due time rival in agriculture and commerce any of the ancient Sarmatian tribes, and present the most effectual barrier yet devised to the aggressions of Russia.

In the prologue to the Westminster Play this year, the *Phormio* of Terence, spoken by Mr. W. W. Follett, captain of the school, allusion was made to the late Dr. Phillimore, and to General Markham, who had been Queen's scholars, and to Lord Raglan, one of the oppidans of the College. Dr. Liddell, the late head-master, now Dean of Christ Church, was present at the third performance of the play.

Thursday was the speech day at St. Paul's school, when among a great variety of recitations and other literary performances, were English poems on the visit of the Emperor and Empress of the French; and a Latin *Alcaic* Ode, a translation of Milton's sonnet on the persecution of the Waldenses, suggested probably by the visit of the King of Sardinia. Milton was a pupil of the school.

The subject of the English poem, for Prince Albert's gold medal of next year, at Cambridge, is 'Luther at the Diet of Worms,' the competition open to all resident undergraduates.

An order has been issued from the General Post Office, levying a rate of twopence, in addition to the present charges, on all newspapers forwarded by British Mails across the Isthmus of Panama, in consequence of the great expense incurred by the use of that route. Newspapers to California, Oregon, and the Sandwich Islands, by way of Panama, will henceforth be subject to the exorbitant rate of 4d., and to Bolivia, Chili, and Ecuador, of 3d. each.

Father Gavazzi is giving lectures in St. Martin's Hall, in reply to those of Cardinal Wiseman, on the Austrian Concordat. Gavazzi now speaks with some fluency in English, but it will be some time before he can exercise the rhetorical power which he displays when using his native language. The Cardinal is heavy and 'unctuous' in manner, and his speeches appear best when in print. In his recent lectures on the Principles of the Beautiful, a subject admitting of less misrepresentation and

less diversity of opinion than his usual theological topics, the Cardinal's expositions and illustrations were striking and appropriate.

Sir Roderick I. Murchison has been elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Brussels.

M. Paul Lacroix, better known under the name of "Bibliophile Jacob," has been nominated a librarian of the Arsenal at Paris. He is one of the most learned literary antiquaries of the day in France.

The Prussian sculptor Rauch has just executed a statue of Kant for Königsberg.

The Surrey Archaeology Society is making good progress. It has held meetings of a very agreeable character during the past year at Chertsey and at Guildford, and is about to issue a volume of Transactions, containing, among other papers, 'The Archaeology of the County of Surrey,' by the Rev. O. F. Owen, M.A., F.S.A.; 'The Religious Bearing of Archaeology upon Architecture and Art,' by the Rev. John Jessopp, M.A.; 'On the Kingston Morastean or Coronation Stone,' by William Bell, Esq., Phil. D.; 'On the Roman Road from Silchester to Staines, passing through Surrey,' by Colonel McDougall; 'On the Warham Monument in Croydon Church,' by G. Steinman Steinman, Esq., F.S.A.; 'On Wall-Paintings discovered in Lingfield Church,' by Edward I'Anson, Esq.

With the advance that has been made during the last few years in domestic and general architecture, it is only natural that architects should desire to have some more special opportunity of exhibiting their works to the public than that afforded by the Royal Academy. The room usually devoted to this purpose in the National Gallery does not strike the attention of the visitor until his interest is almost exhausted by other works of art, and the architects have wisely determined to have an Exhibition of their own. This is now open at the Gallery of the Society of British Artists, in Suffolk-street, for the third season, and the collection of drawings is of no common interest. On a future occasion we may speak of it in detail.

The death of Dr. W. F. Chambers, late Physician to the Queen, and Fellow of the Royal Society, is announced in the obituary of the week. "Dr. Chambers," says the 'Globe,' "was born in India in the year 1780, and was the eldest son of Mr. William Chambers, a gentleman in the civil service of the East India Company. The deceased came to England when very young, and received his education at Westminster and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he obtained high honours. On leaving Cambridge he came to London, and entered at the Windmill-street School of Medicine, and in due time was admitted a licentiate in medicine. Dr. Chambers was for many years one of the physicians of St. George's Hospital, and had, up to the time of his retirement, in 1848, one of the most lucrative practices in the metropolis."

The Paris papers announce the death, at an advanced age, of Baron de Bonnefoux, author of a 'Life of Christopher Columbus,' a 'Nautical Dictionary,' and several works on nautical science. He was a retired captain in the navy, and was at one time Director of the French naval schools.

A Vienna newspaper says that the burial place of Mozart, the precise site of which was long unknown, has just been discovered in the cemetery of St. Mark in that city; and that the municipality has resolved to erect a monument to his memory—also to coin a medal in his honour next year, the one hundredth anniversary of his birth.

It is, it seems, the fashion at Antwerp to have the tomb of Rubens periodically opened. The last opening took place a short time back, in presence of a "select party." The interior of the tomb is said to have presented a frightful spectacle—nothing was seen but fragments of coffins and mouldering bones. Thirteen persons besides Rubens were buried in the same vault, and the exact spot in which he was deposited is not precisely known; but four coffins are slightly elevated on iron rails, and it is supposed that three of them were occupied by the great painter and his two wives; the

fourth, from containing the remains of an ecclesiastical robe, was evidently that of a priest.

The distribution of prizes and medals to the pupils of the School of Fine Arts at Paris, took place on Sunday with the usual solemnity. Great alarm was occasioned just before the commencement of the ceremony by the accidental breaking out of a fire in the *salle*, and it was some time before it could be extinguished. It was feared that the famous hemicycle of Delaroche was greatly, if not irreparably, damaged; but this was not the case, though the valuable painting did not escape injury.

Letters received from M. de Saussure, of Geneva, the noted traveller, who is now engaged in making a scientific exploration of Mexico, announce that he lately succeeded in attaining the summit of the volcanic mountain Popocatepetel, the highest in Mexico, and which is 16,000 feet above the level of the sea. Owing to the climate, the ascent is stated to have been less difficult than that of Mont Blanc.

France, until recently, had no periodicals which occupied exactly the same field as that so worthily held by 'Household Words,' 'Chambers' Journal,' 'The Family Friend,' and kindred publications. A few months ago, however, Messrs. Hachette, the Paris publishers, started a weekly periodical, containing a vast mass of useful, interesting, amusing, and, above all, *moral* matter—all original or translated for the first time—for the small sum of two sous. The success of the work was immense; it found its way into almost every family, and was universally proclaimed to be infinitely preferable to the trashy and often licentious novels, *feuilletons*, and plays, which used to form the staple reading of the French public. Several imitations of Messrs. Hachette's periodical have lately been brought out, and they are not inferior to it in merit: some of them are even sold for the incredibly small sum of one sou.

The French continue to follow the laudable custom of striking medals to commemorate important events in their national history. Within the last three months, the Mint at Paris has coined not fewer than three such medals:—one, designed by M. Borrol, is in honour of the taking of Sebastopol, and it bears on one side the effigy of the Emperor Napoleon, and the inscription, "Capture of Sebastopol by the allied armies of France, England, Turkey, and Piedmont, 9th September, 1855;" the second is in honour of the taking of Kinburn, and it bears the effigy of the Emperor on one side, with the inscription, "Napoleon III., Emperor," and on the other "Capture of Kinburn by the allied fleets of England and France, 27th October, 1855;" and the third, destined to perpetuate the extraordinary success of the last loan raised by the government, bears figures of Agriculture and Commerce, and the inscription, "Loan of 500,000,000frs.—amount of subscriptions 2,198,000,000 frs., number of subscribers 180,000."

Madame Lind Goldschmidt made her second appearance at Exeter Hall, on Monday evening, in Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. If this work lacks the beautiful melodies of Haydn's *Creation*, which Madame Goldschmidt gives with such charming effect, it has passages of dramatic power and of sacred grandeur in which the highest efforts of her wonderful singing are called forth. Such is the grand air at the beginning of the second part, 'Hear ye, Israel,' which was given with great intensity of feeling as well as with faultless skill of execution. The expression thrown into all her music is as remarkable in Madame Goldschmidt as her voice and her art. Her singing in the trio of angels, 'Lift thine eyes,' was another wonderful display, and the other parts were well given by Miss Dolby and Miss Messent. Miss Dolby surpassed her usual efforts in the fine air, 'O rest in the Lord,' which was repeated. In the quartet with chorus, 'Holy, holy, holy,' Madame Goldschmidt for the only time throughout the oratorio departed from the severest simplicity of style, but the shake towards the close of this grand hymn of praise appeared to belong to the natural close of the strain, and pleased still more when heard a second time on the repetition of the passage. Her singing

throughout the evening was certainly a wonderful display, pleasing by its habitual sweetness, and surprising by its occasional grandeur. We must not omit to say that the part of Elijah was well sustained by Mr. H. Braham, with clearness of articulation and correctness of singing, and a dramatic animation that surprised us. In this both he and his brother are somewhat deficient, although it was a great source of old Mr. Braham's excellence as a singer. Mr. Lockey's singing was excellent throughout, and the other parts were well sustained. The performance of the oratorio, conducted by Mr. Benedict, was altogether excellent, and the *Elijah* is not likely to be often heard to greater advantage than on this occasion.

M. Jullien's season closed last Saturday. The chief novelties this season have been the selections from Verdi's *Il Trovatore* and M. Jullien's "Sebastopol Quadrille." Madame Gassier's singing has been continuously attractive. The classical works of Mozart, Beethoven, and Mendelssohn, and other masters, have been listened to with the zest which M. Jullien's exertions have had much share in creating for such music among popular audiences in this country.

At Miss Dolby's musical soirée, on Thursday evening, a well-selected series of vocal and instrumental pieces was given. M. Sainton, Signor Piatti, Mr. Lindsay Sloper, Mrs. and Mr. Tennant, Miss Amy and Mr. G. Dolby, assisted on the occasion. Some spirited ballads and beautiful romances were sung by Miss Dolby, and an expressive scena, 'Joan of Arc in prison,' the words of which are by Mr. Chorley, and the music by Mr. L. Sloper.

The Amateur Musical Society gave their second concert of the season this week, the most noticeable feature of which was the appearance of Mdle. Angelica, the pianiste, whose performances last year gave so much satisfaction.

At the Panopticon, on the 17th, being the anniversary of Beethoven's birthday, a selection from his works was performed on the magnificent organ of this institution, by Mr. Edward Chipp, the organist.

Mdle. Cruvelli leaves the Grand Opera at Paris at the end of the month. She has not yet, we believe, formally renewed her engagement, and *on dit* that she intends abandoning the stage to be married. Mdme. Alboni has signed an engagement for three years with the Grand Opera, commencing next season.

Mr. Smith, the lessee of Drury Lane, has advertised a new season of operatic performances, for which he invites subscribers on unusually reasonable terms. The recent abortive attempt to establish an English opera at the Soho Theatre was, we understand, a private speculation, and was not connected with the company that is still in process of being formed for performances at the Lyceum.

A benefit night was given on Tuesday at the Haymarket to Mrs. Macnamara, formerly of the Olympic Theatre, who is now at an advanced age. Several of our best actors generously volunteered their services for the occasion, and an address was written by Mr. Albert Smith, in which the leading reminiscences of Mrs. Macnamara's dramatic career were cleverly introduced. Last night a benefit was given at St. James's Theatre, for the family of the late Mdle. Julie, on whose professional exertions they were chiefly dependent.

At the Adelphi, the English version of Molière's *Tartuffe* has been revived, and Mr. Webster, in his admirable representation of the principal character, is well supported by Mrs. Keeley, Mr. P. Bedford, and the other characters.

As usual, at this season, some of the Paris theatres have produced what they call their *Revue* of the year—pieces in which the principal events of the last twelve months are more or less pleasantly quizzed. The two principal are at the Palais Royal and the Variétés, but they are not so funny as they might be. The art of *revue*-writing seems, in fact, as much on the decline in Paris as that of *vaudeville*-writing undoubtedly is. The Parisians, by the way, are beginning to complain,

somewhat angrily, of the decline of their stage;—every year, they say, it gets worse, and every year the hope of some genius arising to resuscitate it becomes fainter. At the Ambigu, a drama in five acts, founded on the history of the infamous Caesar Borgia, and bearing his name as its title, has been brought out. It is by two young literary *débütants*, named Crisofulli and Devicque. It was supposed to be of great merit, and it is not without some: but Jules Janin, in an article of pleasant persiflage shows that the young men have borrowed the idea of most of their personages, and of their most effective scenes, from Victor Hugo and Racine.

The Italian Theatre at Paris has done what it scarcely ever does—brought out an original opera. The new piece is called *Fiorina*, and is by a M. Pedrotti, a composer unknown to fame in the north-western parts of Europe. His music is very poor indeed, with the exception of certain large portions which are palpably filched from writers of renown. The libretto is outrageously vile, far exceeding any of the well-known enormities of the kind, even in Italian. The opera ought to have been summarily condemned; but such is the perfection of the *claque* system in Paris that it was loudly applauded, and Pedrotti, in *propria persona*, was actually dragged five or six times on to the stage to be shouted at by his admirers—an Italian way of displaying enthusiasm which made the French portion of the spectators laugh. Bad as the piece is, it is capably executed by Madame Penco, Zucchini, and others of the leading members of the troupe.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Nov. 2nd.—The Hon. R. C. Neville, Vice-President, in the chair. Mr. J. M. Kemble delivered a discourse on Burial and Cremation, more especially in reference to the obscure and important period which his extensive observations and excavations in the north of Germany have contributed in a remarkable degree to elucidate. Numerous as are the isolated facts regarding sepulchral deposits examined in various parts of Europe, little progress appears hitherto to have been made towards any precise comparison of the valuable ethnological evidence which such researches supply. Mr. Kemble observed that the results obtained by excavations in ancient cemeteries have at length assumed so definite a form as to be capable of scientific classification: it is impossible not to recognise the graves of a certain peculiar character opened in Kent, Gloucestershire, and the Isle of Wight, as belonging to one race of men, and one period of time; and equally impossible to separate them from other interments found in Normandy, and in the valleys of the Rhine and Danube. Mr. Kemble adverted to the value of coins discovered in ancient graves as evidence of the age to which they may be assigned, whilst such evidence must always be taken with extreme caution. He offered some observations on a class of interments without cremation, accompanied by iron weapons, vessels of glass, ornaments of bronze, and, in a few rare instances, of silver. These graves he assigned to the period between the fifth and the ninth centuries, and considers them as vestiges of the Teutonic or Germanic race. In another class of cemeteries the characteristic peculiarity occurs that the remains are found calcined by fire, and deposited in urns, variously ornamented, with ornaments not, however, dissimilar to such as are found in the former class, whilst other points of resemblance between the two may be noticed. Mr. Kemble stated the grounds of his conclusion that these urn-burials belong also to that great Teutonic stock which occupied the west of Europe and ruled for centuries in this island; and he observed that if these are Anglo-Saxon burials we may reasonably expect similar remains in the lands whence the Anglo-Saxons emigrated. He gave an interesting summary of the evidence which had been elicited in the north of Germany, commencing from the earliest notice recorded of these sepulchral urns, in the sixteenth century, when they were regarded as natural productions,

and it was gravely asserted that they grew in the earth like bulbous roots, mostly making their appearance in May. The peculiar mortuary urns found in the Eastern Counties, in Sussex, and other parts of England, were shown to be identical with those discovered in Jutland, Friesland, in Westphalia, and many parts of Germany, east of the Rhine, west of the Upper Elbe, and north of the Maine, namely, in countries occupied by the forefathers of the Anglo-Saxons. The latest of these discoveries were made last year at Stade, on the Elbe, under Mr. Kemble's direction, and he produced drawings of numerous urns from that place, pointing out their close similarity in form and ornament to those found near Derby, as described by Professor Henslow, and the urns disinterred by Mr. Neville in Cambridgeshire. An analogy, not less remarkable, was traced between the ornaments, weapons, &c., occurring in this class of graves in England and those found in Germany. From these facts a question of great importance to the archaeologist is presented, namely, whether different tribes of Germans, all being pagans, respectively adopted the one form of burial to the exclusion of the other, or whether all the different tribes adopted first one and then the other forms successively. Mr. Kemble entered at considerable length into the arguments bearing upon this inquiry, which claims, in the progressive state of archaeological knowledge, the most careful investigation. His extensive personal researches in the north of Germany, of which he had brought the results under the notice of the Institute at the recent meeting in Shrewsbury, have tended in a remarkable manner to throw light upon the difficult questions involved in this interesting subject. Mr. Le Keux offered some observations on mediæval art as illustrated by ancient seals, and produced representations of the series of Percy seals, which, through the liberality of the Duke of Northumberland, have been engraved by Mr. Le Keux, for the Memoir, by Mr. Hartshorne, on the 'Barony of Alnwick,' which will accompany the volume of the Transactions of the Institute at the Newcastle meeting. Mr. Alexander Nesbitt gave an account of two sepulchral brasses, lately discovered by him on the Continent; one of them being the earliest memorial of that kind hitherto noticed. It is the effigy of Yso, Bishop of Verden, who died in 1231, preserved in the cathedral of Verden in Hanover. The other is the memorial of John, Rector of St. Giles's Church in Brunswick, bearing date 1376. The most ancient sepulchral brass in England, Mr. Nesbitt observed, is assigned to the year 1277. Mr. Arthur Trollope communicated the discovery of some bronze armlets, of the Roman period, at Lincoln: they are of elegant form, and were on the arm-bones of skeletons lately found. He sent also a notice of a British urn, unique in form and decoration, found in railway excavations near Horn-castle. Mr. Neville exhibited several Roman reliques, Samian ware, personal ornaments, &c., found in his excavations at Chesterford: also an antique fork and spoon of crystal, mounted in silver-gilt, chased with unusual artistic skill. They had belonged to George Gordon, created Marquis of Gordon by James VI. in 1599.—Professor Buckman communicated a further notice of his discoveries at Cirencester, and exhibited a curious assemblage of Roman reliques formed of bone; also a beautiful collection of Saxon brooches and ornaments discovered at Fairford, Gloucestershire. Amongst antiquities exhibited were, a bronze palstave, found in Anglesea, sent by the Rev. Dr. Jones, of Beaumaris, and another object of the same kind, in excellent preservation, from Devonshire, exhibited by Mr. Hall Warren, of Bristol. Mr. Franks brought a massive gold ring, with a round facet on each side of the hoop, enriched with niello. It is supposed to be Saxon, and was found in the river Nene, in Northamptonshire. He produced also a remarkable sculpture in ivory, representing the Saviour, the Evangelists, and subjects from the history of our Lord; it is a work of the tenth century, and had been in the possession of the late Professor Conybeare. The Dean of Llandaff

had sent this curious work of art, possibly the pedestal of a cross, to Mr. Franks, intimating his intention of presenting it to the British Museum. Mr. Brackstone exhibited a collection of iron axe-heads, comprising some described as of the Saxon period, and iron arrow-heads of various forms, found near Blenheim. Mr. Albert Way brought a portion of a Roll of Swan Marks, apparently of the sixteenth century, and relating to the Thames. The Rev. J. Greville Chester sent several drawings of antiquities found near Scarborough. Mr. Dodd brought the original Book of the two Subsidies granted to Charles I. in 1640, and comprising the lists for the hundreds of Calne and Chippenham; the total amount is 579*l.* 6*s.* Mr. Bish Webb brought, by kind permission of Col. the Hon. M. Onslow, a brass figure of a warrior, of cinque-cento workmanship, found under the walls of Guildford Castle. Mr. Edward Hussey brought a remarkable Basilidian gem, supposed to have been found some years since in England. Several of the same type have been published by Montfaucon. Several interesting mediæval seals were exhibited: amongst which was a brass matrix of the fourteenth century, sent by Mr. Fitch; it was lately found attached to a countryman's watch-chain at Happisburgh, Norfolk: the device is a lion, *lci dort la lion*. Mr. Ready sent a fine seal of Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, 12 Hen. VI. from the original impression at Queen's College, Cambridge; a very interesting seal of Isabella Countess of Albemarle, from the muniments of Winchester College; and the seal of Richard II. as Prince of Chester, a seal which does not appear to have been hitherto noticed.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL.—Dec. 12*th*.—T. J. Pettigrew, V.P., in the chair. Mr. Clarke, of Easton, communicated the discovery of a Faciam unit of James I. at Donnington, in good preservation, and of a halfpenny of Edward I., of the London mint, at Old Hall, Letheringham. Mr. Barrow, of the Admiralty, exhibited an interesting mask in terra cotta, found in the ruins of Babylon in 1845, by Lieut. Fitzjames, one of the lamented sufferers in the expedition of Sir John Franklin. The features were singularly angular, and the eyelids much elongated. The visage had been covered with a green vitreous substance, of which much still remains. Mr. Bateman, of Yolgrave, forwarded a list of Anglo-Saxon pennies in his possession, obtained from the find at Carlisle in June last. They are particularly described, and belong to Eadweard I., 901 to 924, and Athelstan, 924 to 940. Five of the moneyers of these specimens, nineteen in number, are not mentioned by Ruding. One of Athelstan, with a helmet head, is of considerable rarity. The coins do not appear to have been worn by circulation. The remainder of the discovery are dispersed in quarters whence no particular information regarding them can be expected. Mr. Shaw, of Andover, gave information regarding many coins of Istricus senior and junior, and of Victorinus recently found at Andover, tending to support the opinion of Stukeley and others as to this place having been a Roman station; its occupation by the Romans is at last clearly established. Within two miles of Andover, Mr. Shaw states, an extremely rare Saxon penny of Beorhtric was found last summer; its weight was twenty-four grains. With the exception of a specimen in the Hunterian Collection at Glasgow, it is believed to be the only other known example. Mr. Shaw also stated that he had recently seen some old documents of the borough of Andover, on which are the borough arms, with the motto, "Helpe nowe and ever." This motto does not now appear, nor is it known as belonging to Andover. It would be interesting to learn when it ceased to be used. Mr. H. Syer Cumming read a paper 'On the Mazer,' in which he gave a history of the different examples known, and some of which had been described in the Journal of the Association. A portion of Mr. F. J. Baigent's paper, 'On the Lymerston Family, and the Establishment of the Tichborne Dole,' which time would not permit of having read at the congress in the Isle of Wight, was read,

and the remainder of the evening was occupied in the reading of the second portion of Sir Gardner Wilkinson's paper 'On Etruscan Tombs.' A third and the concluding part, 'On the Etruscan Vases,' will be read at the next meeting. Three additional Associates were announced, making an election of forty-seven subscribing members during the past year. The Society was then adjourned over the Christmas.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Dec. 10*th*.—Admiral Beechey, F.R.S., President, in the chair. John Algar, Alexander Gillespie, Duncan M'Gregor, Alexander Cumming, inspector general of hospitals, and Charles White, Esqrs., were elected Fellows. Among the donations received since the former meeting the following were mentioned:—'Five years in Damascus,' by the Rev. J. L. Porter, in 2 vols.; the last Report of the Registrar-General; Part 10 of Johnston's 'Physical Atlas'; and the Transactions of the Linnean, Geological, and Statistical Societies, and of the Canadian Institute of Toronto. The President informed the meeting that the Secretary had received a communication from M. Haidinger, of Vienna, announcing the proposed establishment of a Geographical Society in Austria. Dr. Shaw read a letter from Mr. John Kent, F.R.G.S., dated Sydney, August 12, 1855, giving information respecting the North Australian Expedition, which left Moreton Bay in August last, in the *Monarch* barque and *Tom Tough* schooner, under the command of Mr. Gregory, accompanied by his brother and Messrs. Baines, Wilson, Müller, Elsey, Flood, and fourteen men, with fifty horses, two hundred sheep, and provisions and stores for two years. Mr. Windsor Earl accompanied the expedition as far as the mouth of the Victoria, in order to afford it any assistance in his power from his enlarged experience of South Australia. The *Tom Tough* had been engaged to wait in attendance upon the expedition as long as required. Mr. Kent alludes to the departure from the original plan, in omitting to take bullocks and drays, which he holds to be very essential; but considers the party well selected, mentioning in particular the two Gregories, Mr. Baines, and Mr. Wilson, as men well adapted, by their previous experience of travelling and capability of enduring fatigue, for such an undertaking. Mr. Kent likewise alluded to some sketches of North Australia, which had been sent to the Society by Mr. Baines, the artist to the expedition. Sir R. Murchison, in recurring to the interest the Society had taken in originating and promoting this expedition, pointed out its proposed course from Moreton Bay by sea to the mouth of the Victoria river, on the north-west coast. It was intended to ascend that river to its source, and determine the boundaries of the drainage towards the north coast to the interior. The expedition, passing eastward, would probably skirt the northern limits of Sturt's Central Desert, and reach the head waters of the rivers flowing into the Gulf of Carpentaria; from thence it was hoped that it would be in a condition to penetrate southwards to the great bend of the Bareo river, which was the northernmost point reached by Sir Thomas Mitchell and Mr. Kennedy, on their journeys from Sydney towards the Gulf of Carpentaria. These operations would greatly extend our knowledge of Northern Australia, and open up communication between it and the southern colonies. Dr. Shaw next read a communication from Edmund Gabriel, Esq., Her Majesty's Arbitrator at Loanda, to the Earl of Clarendon, transmitted to the Society by Lord Wodehouse. A letter to the same effect, dated August 28, had also been received through Consul Brand, announcing the receipt of a letter from Dr. Livingston, describing his further progress in the interior, after leaving Cassange. Dr. Livingston crossed the boundary of the province on the 18*th* of May last, intending to visit Matiamo, the paramount chief of the Loanda country, and to ascertain if the river Cassi be navigable there. After crossing the river Chikapa and the river Maomba he arrived at Cabango, a large trading station on the river Chihombia, from whence Matiamo is one hundred miles east-north-east. At this

place Dr. Livingston's native companions expressed an anxious wish to turn south towards their homes on the Lecaembye, and circumstances rendered it necessary to adopt that course. The Society may shortly expect further communications from this most scientific of African explorers. A paper by Mr. Macqueen on the tropical regions of Central South Africa was then read, illustrated by an original map, constructed by Mr. Macqueen, in conformity with the routes of Dr. Livingston and the best Portuguese authorities. Mr. Macqueen contended that Mr. Erhardt's late report of a single lake extending from the equator to thirteen degrees south latitude was controverted by the evidence which he produced, and that two separate bodies of water existed there, with rivers flowing between them. The enterprise of European travellers would, it is hoped, settle these disputed questions at no distant period. Mr. Consul Parkes finally read a paper 'On the Geography of Siam,' illustrated by a new map of the lower part of the Menam river, constructed by the American missionaries from their own original observations. The author had accompanied Sir John Bowring on his recent successful mission to the court of Bangkok, and referring to the former labours of Crawford and the more recent proceedings of Bishop Pallegoix, he acknowledged the kindness of Dr. House and the American Protestant missionaries who had allowed him to copy their map. He gave a lucid sketch of the importance of the country, and the advantages to be derived from the liberal treaty entered into with its present enlightened sovereign.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Nov. 27th.—Dr. Gray, F.R.S., in the chair. Mr. G. R. Gray communicated a paper 'On a new Species of *Somateria* and other Birds, collected by Mr. Adams during the Voyage of H.M.S. *Enterprise*, commanded by Captain Collinson, R.N.' He exhibited Mr. Adams's drawings of the new species of *Somateria*, of which several specimens were collected during the voyage. The drawings exhibited the male and female, and the male in change. This species was very similar to *Somateria mollissima*, but easily distinguished from it by a black mark on the throat, like the one found on that part of the *S. spectabilis*; and by the white longitudinal mark on the top of the head being narrower and less conspicuous than in *S. mollissima*. A specimen of this species was added to the collection of the British Museum in 1851; it was collected during the voyage of H.M.S. *Herald*, and found at Kotzebue Sound. From the black mark on the throat, which is in the form of a reversed V, Mr. Gray characterised it under the name of *Somateria V. nigrum*. Mr. Gray also exhibited a beautiful drawing of the *Lamprotonetta Fischeri* of M. Brandt, of which only one example was known to exist in collection—viz., at Moscow. Mr. Adams had the good fortune to obtain not only the male, but the female during the voyage, as well as to see the young male in change. As the female was unknown to Mr. Brandt, Mr. Gray pointed out the chief differences which distinguished it from its allied species. Mr. Adams had called the species, from the rich blue colour of the eyes, 'Blue-eyed Eider Duck.' Mr. P. L. Sclater read a note 'On the genus *Legreocinclus* of Lesson and its Synonyms,' from which it appeared that that name and the five other generic terms, some of which had hitherto been placed in widely different families of birds, ought to be consolidated into one genus, for which Mr. G. R. Gray's appellation, *Cincoecrithia*, was the oldest that could be adopted. Mr. Sclater also gave a description of a new Tanager of the genus *Buarremon* (*Arremon leucopaterus*, Jardine), lately transmitted to Sir William Jardine by Professor Jameson of Quito, and exhibited a specimen of the peculiar sorexine mammal, *Galeomys pyrenica*, from the Pyrenees. Mr. F. Moore read a notice of some new species of birds belonging to the following genera—*Otocoris*, *Emberiza*, *Propasser*, and *Linota*. Dr. Gray described a new genus of Fish-scaled Lizards from New Guinea. The type was presented, with other most interesting and novel specimens, to the British

Museum, by Mr. John McGillivray, who accompanied H.M.S. *Herald* as naturalist during her voyage in the Australasian seas. It was characterized under the name of *Corneia Zabrata*. The Secretary read a paper, by Mr. Arthur Adams, containing Descriptions of Twenty-five new Species of Shells from the Collection of Hugh Cuming, Esq. Mr. Woodward exhibited and described a specimen of the great bivalve shell-fish, *Panopea Aldrovandi*, preserved in spirit; it was supposed to come from Lisbon, and was presented to the Gloucester Museum by Capt. Guise.* The structure of this mollusk showed that the British shell called *Panopea Norvegica* could not belong to the same genus, or even to the same family of bivalves, but must be referred to *Saxicava*, amongst the *Gastrochamidae*,—a conclusion warranted equally by the characters of the shell and animal. Of the other recent species of *Panopea*, the largest was found on the coast of South Africa; and having been erroneously identified with *P. Australis*, from New South Wales, would require a new name, and it was proposed to call it *P. Natalensis*. *P. abbreviata*, from Patagonia, and *P. Zealandica*, were the only other living species of a genus which was found fossil wherever secondary or tertiary strata occurred, and which seemed to be dying out on the distant margins of the area which it had once overspread.

Dec. 11th.—Mr. Sclater read a paper containing characters of two new species of Tanagers, *Dubusia auricrissa* and *Tridornis porphyrocephala*. Since compiling his list of Bogota birds, in which Mr. Sclater had included the first-mentioned species under the name *D. cyanocephala*, he had examined D'Orbigny's types of that bird in the Paris Museum, and found them so different from the present as to lead him to conclude that they were specifically distinct. This bird is common in collections from Bogota. The examples of *D. cyanocephala*, in the British Museum, were procured by Mr. Bridges in Bolivia. Mr. Sclater, in 1854, first noticed a specimen of the second species, *Tridornis porphyrocephala*, in the Museum at Berlin, under the name *Tanagra analis*, Tschudi; but having just previously had the opportunity of examining type specimens of the latter in the collections of Brussels and Bremen, he saw at once that the present was a distinct, although closely allied species. He therefore now introduced it as new to science under the title of *Tridornis porphyrocephala*. The Secretary read a paper, by Mr. P. P. Carpenter, containing descriptions of (supposed) new species and varieties of shells from the Californian and West Mexican coasts, principally in the collection of Hugh Cuming, Esq. Mr. E. W. H. Holdsworth read a paper containing descriptions of two new species of Actinia, from the south coast of Devon, which he characterized under the names of *Actinia pallida* and *Actinia ornata*. They were found on the rocks near the entrance to Dartmouth harbour—a part of our western coast, which, from its steep rugged character and luxuriant growth of seaweeds, presents a fruitful hunting-ground for those in search of marine productions.

ASIATIC.—Dec. 1st.—Charles Elliott, Esq. in the chair. A communication from the President was read, being the translation of an account by Professor Julien of Paris, of some Indian Buddhist works in the Chinese language, recently sent to England by Sir John Bowring. Colonel Rawlinson made a communication to the meeting, which was of great ethnological importance. He had often, he said, on previous occasions, drawn attention to the fact, that the primitive inhabitants of Babylonia,—those who were known in the Bible under the name of Nimrod,—were of the Scythic, and not of the Semitic family. The settlement of

the Semitic races in Western Asia, he had always been aware, was of comparatively modern date, but, until recently, he had not supposed it to be so modern. Now, however, he was able to assert that the Scythic element was predominant in Babylonia as late as the time of Nebuchadnezzar. All the primitive brick-inscriptions of Chaldea,—those, he meant, which were anterior to the institution of the Assyrian empire in the thirteenth century B.C., and of which there were nearly thirty different specimens in the British Museum, recording the names and titles of the early kings, were written in a Scythic dialect. This, indeed, was the true native dialect of the Babylonians up to the time of Nabopolassar and Nebuchadnezzar, when the Semitic-Assyrian was introduced as the official dialect, and forcibly imposed on the nation. Colonel Rawlinson thus continued:—“Under the later kings of Assyria, in the seventh century B.C., when the relations between the two countries were very intimate, the study of the Scythic-Babylonian seems to have been much cultivated at Nineveh, for all the clay tablets of the British Museum, dug out from the ruins of Koyunjik, and which have hitherto been entitled syllabaries, being regarded as mere phonetic explanations of arbitrary monograms, and simple and compound ideographs, are now found to be nothing more or less than comparative alphabets, grammars, and vocabularies of the Assyrian and Babylonian (Scythic) dialects. The Babylonian-Scythians, whose ethnic name is *Akkad*, may be assumed to have invented the cuneiform writing, forming rude pictures of objects in the first place, and afterwards, when these pictures were fashioned into letters, giving to such letters a phonetic power, corresponding with the name of the original object. The alphabet thus formed must have been in use for above one thousand years in Babylonia, before the Semites attempted to apply it to their own language; and it could not, of course, under such circumstances, have been very easily diverted from its original purpose. The Assyrians, in fact, seem to have retained all the old Scythic values of the letters obtained from terms in the Scythic language, and to have only modified the use of the alphabet in so far as to assign to each character a fresh equivalent power in their own language; that is, the power belonging to the Semitic synonym of the original Scythic term; and this double function applied not merely to individual letters, but also to words formed of several letters, or rather of several syllables; so that all those strange groups which occur in the Assyrian inscriptions, and which have been hitherto classed as compound ideographs, are now to be recognised as the old Scythic forms, and are to be read and pronounced according to the Semitic equivalents. This explanation, then, which is not without a parallel in other languages, completely does away with the supposed anomaly of the intermixture of phonetic and ideographic writing in one system. It is satisfactory to know that ample materials exist for the study and analysis of the Scythic language of Babylon. The tablets, in fact, furnish volumes of comparative examples and interlinear translations; but it is, at the same time, doubtful if any close linguistic affinities are to be traced between this primitive tongue and any available dialect of modern times. The pronominal system approaches nearer to the Mongol and Manchu type than to any other branch of the Turanian family; but there is little or no resemblance of vocabulary. In general organization, the language evidently belongs to the same stock as the cuneiform Scythic of Elymais and of Media, (the latter of which has been already subjected to a searching analysis) but still they are all three distinct dialects, differing from each other almost as much as the Turkish, the Mongol, and the Manchu. Semitisms are also to be traced in the Babylonian, and especially in the verbal conjugations, but not probably to a greater extent than in the primitive African languages, which are almost certainly of cognate origin. The Akkadians built all the primitive temples and capitals of Babylonia, worshipping the same gods, and inhabiting the same seats as their Semitic

* This specimen, once in our possession, was collected about ten years since at Messina by the Rev. L. B. Larking, who kept it for a few days, in a tub of sea-water, alive. For a short time after its capture it showed great activity, and flopped its huge siphon with considerable violence against the sides of the tub.—Ed. 'L. G.'

successors; but they appear to have had a different nomenclature, both mythological and geographical. The mysterious groups, indeed, which as it has long been known, designate the various cities of Babylon, and for which vernacular equivalents are only occasionally instituted, are the real old Scythic names of those cities; and the various signs, even, which are used indiscriminately to represent a certain Babylonian god, Nebo for instance, or Merodach, are probably the actual names, or, at any rate, the indices of the name of the god, in one or more of the Scythic dialects. The Jews must have been acquainted with this double vocabulary, though it is nowhere directly noticed in the Bible. The names of the cities of Nimrod, for example, are all Scythic, with the exception of Babel. Shinar, itself, unknown in the Semitic inscriptions, was probably the Scythic equivalent of Babel, as Sheshah (Jer. xxv. 26) was for 'Ur of the Chaldees.' Babylonia, in the earlier Assyrian inscriptions, has the territorial name of Akkad, from the Scythic tribes who inhabited the land. Afterwards, as the Semitic tribes (especially the Arameans and the various divisions of the Arabs) increased in power, Shumir and Akkad, the two great divisions of the Scythians, were distinguished from Babylonia proper. It cannot be positively stated at present to which division, Scythic or Semitic, the Chaldeans belonged. They are not mentioned in the primitive brick-inscriptions, nor, indeed, until the Assyrian period; and the names of the kings who were contemporary with the monarchs of Nineveh, and who may be assumed to have been of Chaldean descent, are certainly Semitic. But, on the other hand, the Chaldeans were closely associated with the Elamites and Nimri, who were as certainly Scythians; and as the Greeks found Chaldeans in the Armenian mountains, so is it shown by the inscriptions that, under Sargon, the Akkad had emigrated to the northward—the mountain range above Assyria being named, indifferently, Arrarat and Akkad. The balance of evidence is at present rather in favour of regarding the Chaldeans as a branch of the Akkad, and, accordingly, of the Scythic stock, the kings who ruled over the Chaldees, such as Merodach-adin-akhi, Nebo-bal-adin, Merodach-bal-adan, &c., being of foreign extraction, and having merely risen to power in consequence of the Semitic supremacy in Assyria. A further argument in favour of this explanation is, that under the later kings—from Nabopolassar downwards—who were undoubtedly Semites, the name of the Chaldeans is never mentioned,—an omission which could hardly have occurred had the tribes in question, who were then certainly very powerful, been of the same race with the reigning family. If we regard the Chaldeans as a branch of the Akkad, and the nucleus of the aboriginal Scythic population of Babylonia, we may then understand how, while the armies of the king were furnished from their ranks, the chiefs of the nation, residing in their old primitive cities of Orchoe and Borsippa, cultivated the sciences of writing and astrology, which they had originally taught to the Semites, and thus retained their literary character down to the period of the Greek occupation of Babylonia." The Secretary, in the name of the Council, submitted to the meeting the name of Phra Bard Somdeteh Phra Paramend Maha Mongkut Phra Chom Klau Chau Yu Hua, the chief king of Siam; and that of his brother and subordinate prince,—Phra Bard Somdeteh Phra Paramend Ramesr Maheswarear Phra Pin Klau Chau Yu Hua, for election as honorary members of the Society. The claim of these royal personages consisted in their protection of the interests of science, and in their own personal attainments to an uncommon degree for Oriental monarchs. The head king was a proficient in the Pali and Sanskrit languages; and, what was more uncommon, he had acquired a considerable acquaintance with Latin and English. The second king is stated by Sir John Bowring to speak and write English with ease and correctness. Both are astronomers, able to take an observation and work an eclipse; and the second

king is also a chemist and mechanician. Both have written letters to her Majesty the Queen in English, which are creditable performances. The head king has entered into a treaty of amity and commerce with this country, which gives Englishmen a right to hold land, and to be governed by their own laws in Siam, and grants other valuable privileges,—thus opening up to our enterprise a country which has hardly been less shut to us than China itself. The names of these monarchs were then proposed to the meeting, and their Majesties were unanimously elected.

GEOLOGICAL.—Nov. 21st.—W. J. Hamilton, Esq., President, in the chair. J. G. Sawkins, Esq., was elected a Fellow. The following communications were read:—1. 'Notice of the Artesian Well through the Chalk at Kentish Town,' by Joseph Prestwich, Jun., Esq., Sec.G.S. The boring of this well has pierced the following succession of beds:—London clay, 236 feet,—Woolwich and Reading series, 61½ feet,—Thanet Sands, 27 feet,—Middle chalk (usually termed "Upper Chalk" in England), 244½ feet,—Lower Chalk, 227½ feet,—Chalk marl, 172 feet,—Upper Greensand, 59 feet,—Gault, 85 feet,—and then 176½ feet of a series of red clays with intercalated sandstones and grits. Altogether amounting to 1290 feet. It was expected that, in accordance with the general relations of the lower members of the cretaceous series as they come to the surface in the districts north and south of London, that the sands of the lower greensand formation would be found immediately to succeed the gault in the boring. Instead of the sands in question the red sandy clays have presented themselves, and the question of the probability of obtaining a supply of water by deeper boring depends upon the fact whether these red clays are a local variation of the gault, and overlie the usual lower greensand, or whether the lower cretaceous deposits have here put on a new character altogether. The consideration of this important subject was referred to a committee, who will report upon it at a future meeting of the Society. 2. 'On the Discovery, by Mr. Robert Slimon, of Uppermost Silurian Rocks and Fossils near Lesmahago, in the South of Scotland, with Observations on the Relations of those Strata to the overlying Palaeozoic Rocks of that part of Lanarkshire,' by Sir Roderick I. Murchison, V.P.G.S., &c. The principal object of the author is to direct the attention of geologists to the recent discovery of the uppermost Silurian rocks of Scotland, in which country their presence was unknown. This important discovery was made by Mr. Robert Slimon, of Lesmahago, who in the western part of that extensive parish of Lanarkshire, detected very remarkable and large fossil crustaceans, the exhibition of which at the Glasgow meeting of the British Association induced Sir R. Murchison to visit the tract in question, accompanied by Professor Ramsay. 3. 'Description of the Crustaceans from the Uppermost Silurian Rocks near Lesmahago.' By John W. Salter, Esq., F.G.S. The large crustacea referred to in the last paper were described by Mr. Salter. They belong to the family *Eurypteride* of Burmeister, and bear the closest relation to *Eurypterus*. They also present many analogies with the *Pterygotus*, particularly in the presence of a scale-like sculpturing on the body-rings, a character now known to be present in *Eurypterus*, and probably common to the whole family.

LINNEAN.—Dec. 4th.—Thomas Bell, Esq., President, in the chair. John Francis Champion, Esq., Daniel Hanbury, Jun., Esq., Robert Hulme, Esq., John Lee, Esq., LL.D., Lester Lester, Esq., and James Townley, Esq., were elected Fellows. Among the presents received since the last meeting, the Secretary announced photographs, by Mrs. Glaisher, of ten species of British ferns, presented by E. Newman, Esq., F.L.S.; sixty coloured drawings, by native artists, of Indian animals and plants, presented by Mrs. Sarah Impey, through Col. Sir Proby T. Cautley, K.C.B., &c., and a copy of

the magnificent work recently published by Messrs. Reeve and Co., 'Illustrations of Himalayan Plants,' from drawings made for the late J. F. Cathcart, Esq., of the Bengal Civil Service, presented by the author, J. D. Hooker, Esq., M.D., F.R. and L.S. Read, 'Supplementary Observations on some Genera and Species of *Balanophora*,' by Dr. J. D. Hooker. Read also, extracts of two letters addressed to the President, by Henry Evans, Esq., of Darley Abbey, near Derby, relative to seals killed by him on the western coast of Ireland. Communicated by the President. The writer gives some interesting particulars with respect to the habits of the common seal (*Phoca vitulina*), which frequents, in considerable abundance, the inland bays near Roundstone, as many as two dozen having been occasionally seen in one day, though so shy and wary that it was difficult to get within a hundred yards of them. The larger seals keeping further out to sea, and frequenting rocks that can be approached only in the calmest weather, are far more difficult to meet with. On one of these rocks, about eight miles from Roundstone, Mr. Evans once succeeded in getting a shot at an immense seal, about eight feet in length, white, with a large black patch on each side, which he had not the slightest doubt was a male of the rare harp seal (*Phoca Groenlandica*), an opinion which, from this description of its markings, the President confirmed; unfortunately the animal got away into deep water after receiving two rifle balls. He had one companion, apparently a female, of the same species. Near an island called Mynish, some ten miles from Roundstone, Mr. Evans succeeded in obtaining a specimen of another larger seal (*Halicherus gryphus*), which afforded great sport, having led his pursuers a chase of upwards of a mile, after having been shot through the head with a rifle ball, which passed through one eye and out below the other. This fellow displayed astonishing tenacity of life; having been partially stunned by a second shot in the head, he was hauled into the boat, where he was lashed down, but was so far from being dead on the party reaching Roundstone, that it was an hour's work, of no slight difficulty, to secure him on a hand-barrow. He was then carried up to the hotel, where he was left for the night, in the hopes of his speedy demise. Next morning, however, he was sufficiently recovered to spring three or four yards at a bound, towards a man who was passing; and things growing rather serious, Mr. Evans was eventually called up to finish him.

METEOROLOGICAL.—Nov. 27th.—Dr. Lee, F.R.S., President, in the chair. The following gentlemen were elected Members. Sir J. Matheson, M.P.; Archdeacon Tattam; Rev. F. Redford; Rev. M. A. Smelt; Captain Washington, R.N.; Dr. Robertson; Dr. Richardson; E. Dollond, H.A.L. Negretti, R. S. Stedman, C. Tennant, and J.W. Zambra, Esqrs. Dr. Charles Smallwood, of Isle Jesus, Canada East, was elected an Honorary Member. A paper was read referring to the wind charts lately published by the Board of Trade. Captain FitzRoy said that an official letter was circulated last year, which explained the principal objects that Government had in view when establishing an office attached to the Marine Department of the Board of Trade, in which marine meteorological observations should be collected, tabulated, and discussed. After reading extracts from that letter and other papers, Captain FitzRoy stated that letters had been received at the Board of Trade from Lieut. Maury, expressing his cordial approbation of the wind charts, and his belief that they would be very useful to navigators. Mr. Zambra, of the firm of Messrs. Negretti and Zambra, of Hatton-garden, read a paper 'On a Mercurial Minimum Thermometer of their own invention.' And a communication was read from John Graham, Esq., relative to a mirage seen at Darlington on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd of June, 1855. The effect was the apparent elevation of the Tees Bay, or entire portion of the sea between Hartlepool and Redcar, the sea presenting just the

same appearance to the observer as under ordinary circumstances would be presented were he placed in comparative proximity to it. A considerable quantity of smoke was seen, and supposed to be that arising from the iron furnaces at Middleborough. The extent of horizon along which the unusual refraction was estimated to reach was about 120 degrees, or from east to north-north-west. The phenomenon presented nearly the same appearance each evening, and was seen from four to six o'clock, P.M., by several independent observers.

ANTIQUARIES.—*Dec. 6th.*—J. Hunter, Esq., V.-P., in the chair. Mr. John Maclean, Mr. G. P. Joyce, the Rev. Canon Stanley, Mr. W. Jones, and Mr. Herbert Barnard, were elected Fellows. Mr. Morgan exhibited three ancient clocks of very beautiful workmanship, one of them in the form of a crucifix, surmounted by a globe encircled by a belt on which the hours are marked. The Secretary exhibited a book containing acquittances for secret service moneys paid by the Government of England from the year 1695 to 1701. This volume, besides other signatures, contains those of Titus Oates and Matthew Prior. Mr. Morgan then read an account of excavations at Caerwent during the past summer. Two ranges of buildings within the walls are laid open, in one of which a very complete tessellated pavement was discovered, in the other a very perfect suite of Roman baths, with the apartments for dressing, anointing, &c.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—*Dec. 5th.*—The Earl of Shelburne, M.P., in the chair. The paper read was 'On the Construction of Private Carriages in England; and on the Carriage Department of the Paris Exhibition of 1855,' by Mr. G. N. Hooper.

Dec. 12th.—C. W. Hoskyns, Esq., in the chair. The paper read was 'On the Progress and Results of the Under-drainage of Land in Great Britain,' by Mr. J. Bailey Denton.

Dec. 19th.—Joseph Glynn, Esq., F.R.S., in the chair. The paper read was 'The Present Position of the Iron Industry of Great Britain with Reference to that of other Countries,' Part I., by Mr. J. Kemfou Blackwell, F.G.S. In this section of his paper the author took a general view of the mineral resources of those countries which are the principal seats of the production of iron. In the second part, which has been announced for reading on the 9th January, he proposes to examine the nature of the various processes followed in this manufacture, and to inquire how far they appear to be susceptible of improvement, and, lastly, to give some account of the evidences of progress in this industry abroad as compared with this country, derived from the specimens exhibited at the Paris Exhibition.

STATISTICAL.—*Dec. 17th.*—Eleven gentlemen were elected Fellows of the Society. Dr. Guy, Physician to King's College Hospital, and one of the Honorary Secretaries to the Society, read a paper, 'On the Nature and Extent of the Benefits conferred by Hospitals on the Working Classes and the Poor.'

CIVIL ENGINEERS.—*Dec. 4th.*—James Simpson, Esq., President, in the chair. The following Candidates were elected:—Messrs. J. J. Berkley, H. H. Edwards, and C. Jopp, as Members; J. Cochran, F. R. Conder, R. R. Rowe, and W. B. Scott, as Associates. The Paper read was 'On the Vertical Structure of the Primary Rocks, and the general character of their Gold-bearing varieties,' by Mr. Evan Hopkins.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Wednesday.—Microscopical, 1 p.m.

Thursday.—Numismatic, 7 p.m.

—Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor Faraday on the Common Metals. Adapted to a juvenile auditory.)

Saturday.—Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor Faraday on the Common Metals. Adapted to a juvenile auditory.)

VARIETIES.

Ascent of Mount Ida, in Crete.—It will be interesting to many of your readers to learn that the ascent of the highest peak of Mount Ida, in Crete, was accomplished on the 3rd of last month—probably for the first time by any of our countrymen—by two English officers and myself, the rest of our large party having proceeded only so far as the grotto (about 5,000 feet above the level of the sea) in which, according to the old legend, the infant Jupiter was concealed. On the 1st of October we set out from Rhithymnos, a seaport town, of about 6000 inhabitants, for Pistaï, a mountain village on the lower slopes of Ida, and which we reached after a delightful ride of six hours. Our cavalcade was mounted on no less than 38 mules, for, as a high English functionary was of the party, the Turkish authorities provided abundantly every facility, a guard of honour, &c. Nothing could be more picturesque than the appearance which our cavalcade presented as it wound in single file along the valleys, over the hills, and through the woods of this beautiful island, the gem of the Mediterranean, our English shooting-jackets and wide-awakes, the riding-habits of the ladies (certainly the first Englishwomen who ever penetrated into the interior of Crete) mingled among and contrasted with the bright dresses and flashing arms of our escort and of the Cretan mountaineers who accompanied us on foot. On our arrival at Pistaï we were lodged in a number of little burrow-like houses, built up against the slope of the mountain, and which had been prepared for our reception by order of the Pasha. Here, in the old English phrase, we 'lay' for three nights; to say we 'slept' would be less correct, for all eastern travellers know that certain insect visitors in all the villages insure too often what Milton calls 'a sober certainty of waking bliss.' The ingenuity of Monsieur G—, Sir —'s French cook, provided us daily with excellent fare, of which we partook under the branches of a huge ilex, surrounded by wondering groups of the villagers, who had never, probably, seen a "Frank" before. The first day of our abode on Ida was devoted chiefly to shooting red-legged partridges, which abound throughout the island. At six o'clock a.m. on the morning of the 3rd we commenced the ascent of the mountain, and in two hours and a half reached "Jupiter's Grotto." So far the path is passable for mules, and winds up under precipitous cliffs and through a magnificent forest of evergreen oaks. Half an hour above the grotto we reached the base of the central cone of the mountain, which reminded me of that of Parnassus; and here we left our mules. The toilsome and abrupt ascent of this cone took us two hours on foot before we reached the summit of the highest of the three peaks in which it terminates, and which, as nearly as it can be ascertained, is 7,674 feet above the sea. This point commands one of the most extensive, most beautiful, and most interesting panoramic views in the world. The whole of Crete was spread out like a map below our feet; the outlines of the White Mountains to the west, and those of the Dictæan Mountains to the east, with the coast line of the *Ægean* to the north, and of the African Sea to the east, are perfect in variety and beauty. In clear weather many of the "isles which crown the *Ægean* deep" are visible, as also Grandos (the Claudia of the *Acts* of the *Apostles*), in the African Sea. G. F. B.—*Times*.

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